

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2381.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1873.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

ROYAL ACADEMY of ARTS.—The ROYAL ACADEMY is prepared to receive Applications for the Office of SECRETARY. He must be a Gentleman of Letters, of commanding conversation, and a man accustomed to official business. The Salary will commence at 400*l.* a year. He will be required to give daily attendance, and in the evenings on the Meetings of the Council and General Assemblies.—Applications to be addressed to the SECRETARY pro tem., on or before the 1st of July. LUMB STOCKS, R.A., Sec. pro tem.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT of SCIENCE.

22, Albemarle-street, London, W.

The NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at BRADFORD, commencing on WEDNESDAY, September 17.

President Elect.

J. PRESCOTT JOULE, D.C.L. LL.D. F.R.S.

NOTICE to the CONTRIBUTORS of MEMOIRS.—Authors are reminded that, under an arrangement dating from 1870, the acceptance of Memoirs, and the days on which they are to be read, are now, as far as possible, determined by Organizing Committees for the several Sections before the beginning of the Meeting. It has therefore become necessary, in order to give an opportunity to the Committees of doing justice to the papers, that the General Secretary should be allowed to prepare an Abstract of his Memoir, of a length suitable for insertion in the published Transactions of the Association, and that he should send it, together with the original Memoir, by book-post, on or before September 22, Albemarle-street, London, W. General Secretaries, British Association, 22, Albemarle-street, London, W. If it is necessary for the Author to be present at the Meeting, his Paper should be read on any particular day, he is requested to send information thereto to the Secretaries in a separate note.

Information about local arrangements may be obtained by application to the Local Secretaries, Bradford.

G. GRIFFITH, M.A., Assistant General Secretary, Harrow.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND.

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President—Professor Busk, F.R.S.

Treasurer—Rev. Dunbar I. Heath, M.A.

Director—E. W. Brabrook, Esq., F.R.S.

The next MEETING of the INSTITUTE will be held on TUESDAY, the 17th day of June, at 8 o'clock P.M. precisely, when the following Papers will be read:—

1. 'A Description of the Lizard, S. C. Holland, R.N.

2. 'Account of an Interview with a Tribe of Bushmans in South Africa,' By G. W. Stow, Esq., F.G.S. (Communicated by the President).

3. 'Specimens of Native Australian Languages,' By Andrew Macmillan, Esq. (Communicated by the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley).

And other Papers.

Professors T. M'Kenny Hughes and Mr. J. G. Waller will exhibit Objects of Interest, before the reading of the Papers.

J. FRED. COLLINGWOOD, Secretary.

VICTORIA (PHILOSOPHICAL) INSTITUTE.

—A PAPER 'On Prehistoric Traditions and Customs in connection with Sun and Serpent Worship, illustrated with Diagrams, will be READ, at Eight o'clock, on MONDAY, June 16, by J. S. PHENE, Esq. F.L.S., &c.

PRIMARY OBJECT of the INSTITUTE.—To associate Men of Science and Authors for the purpose of investigating, fully and impartially, all the important Questions of Philosophy and Science, more especially such as may be put forward as militating against the Great Truths of Holy Scripture.

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Communications to be addressed to the Honorary Secretary. Members and Associates elected now are entitled to the 'Transactions' for the whole year.

F. PETRIE, Hon. Sec.

Rooms of the Institute, 8, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, London.

BIRMINGHAM TRIENNIAL MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

In Aid of the Funds of the BIRMINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.

THIRTY-FIRST CELEBRATION,

ON

TUESDAY, August 28.

WEDNESDAY, August 27.

THURSDAY, August 28.

FRIDAY, August 29.

PATRONS.

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

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ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL FUND.—A Statement of Account, with List of Subscriptions prepared by the Finance Committee to 31st of March last, will be forwarded to each Subscriber, and may be had on application. Subscriptions to the Fund may be paid to, and all information obtained from, the Secretary, W.M. CALVERT SHONE, the Chapter House, 68, St. Paul's Church-yard.

MISS EMILY FAITHFULL has returned from the United States.—Applications from SECRETARIES of Institutions for her LECTURE, 'EIGHT MONTHS IN AMERICA,' to be addressed to her SECRETARY, Victoria Press, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W. FAITHFULL will visit the NORTH of ENGLAND and SCOTLAND in December.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—PARTICULAR ATTRACTIONS THIS DAY and NEXT WEEK.

SATURDAY (June 14).—Special Opera, 'Il Trovatore, at 3; Out-door Sports, Roman, at 6.

TUESDAY.—Great National Dog Show opens; Opera at 3.

WEDNESDAY.—Dog Show.

THURSDAY.—Dog Show; Opera, at 3.

FRIDAY.—Last Day of Dog Show.

The Fine Arts' Courts and Collections, including the Picture Gallery (the Works on Sale), the Technological and Natural History Collections, and the Library, will be open daily, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Gardens and Park, always open. Music and Fountains daily.

Admission to the Palace, Monday to Friday, One Shilling; Saturday, Five Shillings; or by Ticket purchased before the day, Half-a-Crown; or by Guinea Season Ticket.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The NATIONAL DOG SHOW, Organized by the Kennel Club, TUESDAY, June 17th, till FRIDAY, June 20th.—Admission to the Show on the First Day, Half-a-Crown; on the Second, One Shilling; on the Third, Five Shillings; on the Fourth, One Shilling. Season Ticket Holders, One day, One Shilling. Admission to the Palace, One Shilling, or by Guinea Season Ticket.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The GREAT NATIONAL ROSE SHOW, SATURDAY, June 28th. Fête of the German Gymnastic Society takes place same day. Half-a-Crown, or by Ticket purchased before the day, Half-a-Crown; or by Guinea Season Ticket.

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Report of Cambridge Specimens.

Applications for admission after the Summer Holidays should, if possible, be made before JULY 1.

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A picturesque Town of Marburg, North of Frankfort-on-the-Main, contains a noted University, a Gymnasium, and a Realschule, each of these Institutions being replete with appliances and facilities for a thorough and complete Modern Education, the Scholastic Fees being almost nominal.

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LAW TUTOR.—Students are prepared for the School of Jurisprudence, Oxford, the B.C.L. Examination, Oxford, and the Inns of Court ("Call" Certificate) Examination, London, by a Barrister-at-Law (an Oxford man), at his Chambers in Chancery-lane.—Address A. B. care of Messrs. Stevens & Haynes, Law Publishers, 11, Bell-yard, Temple Bar, London, W.C.

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ORGANIST and CHOIR-MASTER WANTED for Newtoning Church (Established), EDINBURGH. Salary not less than 60*l.* He must be ready to enter on his duties at the beginning of November next. Applications, with testimonials, must be sent to Mr. George Frazer, 15, Arnotton-place, Edinburgh, before 1st of July.

TWO GOOD MASTERS will be required in a Private School at the end of August: one chiefly for Mathematics, the other as Junior Master.—Address, with references, and stating Salary required, Rev. J. L. CARRICK, Spring-hill, near Southampton.

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Sale by Auction

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M R. J. C. STEVENS begs to announce that he WILL SELL, at 12, at his Great Rooms, 8, King-street, Covent-garden, on SATURDAY, June 24, 1873, a very valuable and extensive COLLECTION of BRITISH and FOREIGN INSECTS and ENTOMOLOGICAL BOOKS of the late THOMAS PARRY, Esq., of Merthyr, South Wales, to which is added some other smaller Collection of Insects, and a choice Collection of Bird Skins in first-rate condition, from Northern India, the Property of an Officer. On view the day of Sale, and Catalogues had.

Modern Books and Remainders, Wood-blocks, Stationery, &c. **M E S S R S. HODGSON** will SELL by AUCTION, at their Rooms, 118, Chancery-lane, W.C. (Fleet-street end), on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1873, a very valuable and extensive collection of MODERN BOOKS and REMAINDERS, including 40 O'Flanagan's Chancellors of Ireland, 2 vols. 8vo.—66 Ep. Hampden's Memorials, 8vo.—150 Londale's Life of Dr. Heysham, 8vo.—132 Meteyard's Group of Englishmen, 8vo.—750 Treasures Lost and Found, 8vo.—395 Albert Lunel, 3 vols.—40 Rainbow Stories to the Children, 8vo.—200000 other Books, including a very valuable Sheaf—300 Beautiful Butterflies—300 Humming Birds—500 vols. of Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopaedia—750 Eardley Wilmot's Boat Signals—614 Nolans on Cavalry—250 Brabazon's Soldiers and their Science—850 vols. of Archdeacon Evans's Religious Biographies—70 Wordsworth's Poems—100 Biographies of the Most Eminent English Poets—History, 3 vols.—300 Edwards's The Victorious Life—and a variety of other Standard Religious Publications—Books on Popular Science—Historical and Biographical Works—270 Useful Wood-blocks, and a small stock of Stationery—Modern School and Juvenile Books—Maps, &c. To be viewed, and Catalogues had.

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MESSRS.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1873.

LITERATURE

EASTERN TURKESTAN.

Lahore to Yarkand : Incidents of the Route, and Natural History of the Countries traversed by the Expedition of 1870, under T. D. Forsyth, C.B. By G. Henderson, M.D., and A. O. Hume, C.B. (Reeve & Co.)

SINCE the year 1862, when Mr. Davies wrote his Report on the commerce between India and Central Asia, a great advance has been made in our knowledge of Eastern Turkestan, so long sealed up by the jealous policy of the Chinese. The frontiers of British India are virtually on the summits of the range which bounds this country on the south, while Russia holds the passes of the Tien-shan, leading to it from the north. The plains and fertile valleys of Kashgar and Yarkand thus intervene between the territories of England and Russia, and it would be difficult, from a political point of view, to over-estimate their importance. The intercourse between India and Turkestan was barred, not so much by the range of the Himalaya, which is no insurmountable obstacle, as by the exclusive policy of the Chinese on one side, and the heavy transit dues imposed by the Maharaja of Kashmir on the other. The expulsion of the Chinese destroyed one of these barriers; the successful negotiations with Kashmir for the reduction of the duties overthrew the other. In 1865 Mr. Johnson, of the Great Trigonometrical Survey, visited Khotan, and in 1868 Shaw and Hayward penetrated to Yarkand and Kashgar. These intrepid travellers were the pioneers of the road across the Himalayan range. They first opened friendly intercourse with the Yarkandis, and brought the new sovereign of those parts, the Atalik Ghazi, to our knowledge. Mr. Shaw's pleasant narrative made us acquainted with the road to the famed but practically unknown cities of Eastern Turkestan, with the capabilities and products of the country, and with the inhabitants. From that time the trade between India and Yarkand has been diligently fostered. In 1867 Dr. Cayley was appointed to reside at Té whilst the caravans were passing to and from Central Asia; and soon the Yarkandi merchants began to find their way to the mercantile cities of the Punjab.

Mr. Forsyth was sent on an embassy to the Atalik Ghazi in 1870, in order to open friendly relations; and he penetrated as far as Yarkand. He was accompanied by Dr. Henderson and Mr. Shaw, who diligently collected and observed, and thus added largely to our knowledge of the country, which, five years ago, was absolutely unknown. The present volume contains the results of this expedition, and comprises, not only a narrative of the journey, a complete section of the route, and a series of meteorological observations, but also descriptions of the birds, insects, and plants collected by the way, and it is profusely illustrated. We are informed in the Preface that the Secretary of State for India "most liberally" subscribed for a number of copies, sufficient to relieve the authors from almost all risks. This is as it should be; but "liberality" is scarcely the word to apply to a proper application of public money. The English or

Indian public, as the case may be, have a clear right to the knowledge collected by embassies, or expeditions, paid for out of the revenues of the State; and but too often they are deprived of it. The support that has been given to the publication of the present valuable work is a sign that the authorities are beginning to comprehend their duties with regard to the dissemination of knowledge which is the property of the public, not of departmental officials. Mr. Forsyth, in consequence of the unavoidable absence of the Atalik Ghazi on a distant frontier, failed to negotiate a treaty, but the results of his expedition were most fruitful, and have been ably worked up in this volume.

Naturalists have cause for congratulation in the fortunate combination of circumstances which has led to the publication of this work. An accomplished botanist and enthusiastic collector accompanied the mission, while the zeal of an ardent ornithologist, who fortunately was also in a high official position, produced an able and exhaustive description of the birds, and doubtless facilitated the display of that "liberality" which is extolled in the Preface. We trust that this beneficial influence will be exerted in other directions. The publication of the valuable results of Government missions ought to be the rule, not the exception; and, while we welcome the appearance of this account of the natural history of Yarkand, we would venture to remind the authorities that a still more precious collection of the Fauna of Persia, made at the expense of the people of India, together with careful geological observations, remains unpublished. If the collections of Dr. Henderson are published with the assistance of the Secretary of State for India, it is difficult to understand on what principle similar assistance is withheld in the case of the still more complete and valuable collections of Mr. Blanford.

The narrative, which is illustrated by a map and by twenty-six heliotype views, is from the pen of Dr. Henderson. It is pleasantly written, and, with the aid of the illustrations, the reader may obtain a good idea of the route; although the sparkling anecdote and life-like touches, of which Mr. Shaw's journal is full, are wanting. Mr. Forsyth's embassy was received at Yarkand with profuse hospitality. As its members approached the town, the road was lined, on each side, by spectators, and Dr. Henderson remarked that a number of the Yarkandi faces were precisely like those of Englishmen, being, for the most part, quite as fair, and many of them having rosy cheeks. The residence of the mission was extremely spacious and comfortable, and had been built and fitted up specially for its use; and the members were able to take rides into the country, instead of being confined to one house, as Mr. Shaw was during his first visit.

The ornithological results of the expedition are described by Mr. Allan O. Hume, the Secretary to the Government of India for the Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce. Mr. Hume's superb collection, and his knowledge of the birds of India, render him peculiarly well qualified to treat of the species met with on the road to Yarkand. Yet, to those who know the amount of public business which this distinguished civilian gets through, and the ceaseless calls upon his

attention, it must be matter for wonder that he should have found leisure to critically examine and describe Dr. Henderson's collection. The most interesting part of Mr. Hume's remarks is that in which he discusses the migrations of birds from India to the north. Birds that inhabit Siberia during one time of the year, migrate at other seasons into the nearest portions of India, and many of these naturally occur in Yarkand. Other Indian species, which do not go so far as Siberia, resort to Yarkand for the summer. But, apart from these migrations, Mr. Hume is inclined to think that Central Asia possesses a distinct resident avi-fauna. It is represented in Dr. Henderson's collection by a new falcon, a kind of chough, a steppe lark, a stone-chat, and a partridge. It is marvellous that little birds, like the tree-warblers and quails, should be able to sustain a flight across the whole width of the snowy Himalaya, yet there seems to be no doubt of the fact. Many, of course, come to grief, and Dr. Henderson found a quail in an utterly exhausted state at an elevation of 13,500 feet. The coloured plates of birds are beautifully executed, and greatly enhance the value of the work.

The insects, consisting of butterflies and moths, are described by Mr. Bates. Two species are remarkable for the great elevation at which they were found, the highest yet recorded for the flight of butterflies; but the very small collection only serves to show how much may be done hereafter in the department of entomology. The botanical specimens are more numerous, including upwards of 400 species, and their descriptions are also illustrated by well-executed coloured plates.

As regards Eastern Turkestan the present work only describes the commencement of investigations into the natural history of a hitherto unexplored region. Far more complete results may be anticipated from the larger mission, again led by Mr. Forsyth, which will start for Yarkand in July of the present year. It will be accompanied by Capt. Tanner, one of the most distinguished members of the Great Trigonometrical Survey, and by Dr. Stoliczka, an accomplished geologist; under whose auspices observations and collections will doubtless be made on a still more complete scale. Meanwhile, the volume now before us, the illustrations of which reflect great credit on the publishers, supplies much information valuable both to scientific men and to general readers.

Lombard Street : a Description of the Money Market. By Walter Bagehot. (H. S. King & Co.)

MR. BAGEHOT has made in the book before us an interesting and valuable contribution to the discussions on the theory and practice of the money market. His treatment of the subject deserves special praise for its clearness and point. He tells his readers in the introductory chapter that he calls his book "Lombard Street," and not the "Money Market," in order to show that he means to deal, not with abstractions, but with concrete realities. The money market is, he insists, as real and concrete as anything can be; it can be described in as plain words, and it is the writer's own fault if what he says is not understood easily. Enthusiasts on either side of the controversy

respecting the Bank Charter Act of 1844 will, perhaps, be disappointed in finding that in 'Lombard Street' all reference to the disputed principles of that Act is studiously avoided. When it is necessary to refer to the Act, its experienced effects are spoken of; but discussion on the abstract theories which form the basis of the Act is invariably declined. An excellent reason is given for this course. Mr. Bagehot has many important suggestions to make on the policy which should govern the conduct of the Directors of the Bank of England. He wishes his readers to weigh these suggestions impartially; and they have no reference to the rights and wrongs of the Act of 1844. On the other hand, he is well assured that if he ventured on any arguments either for or against the policy of this Act, nothing else he has to say would receive any attention. The advocates and opponents of the Bank Charter Act have all the heat and acrimony of rival disputants on religious topics. They would fasten on every passage relating to the Act, and would attack or defend it as if there were nothing else in the book. Mr. Bagehot, therefore, says as little as possible of "Peel's Act." As far as he can he dwells exclusively on the post-Peel agencies, so that those who have had enough of the well-worn theme of the Bank Charter Act may not be wearied, and that the new and neglected parts of the subject may be seen as they really are.

Mr. Bagehot commences by pointing out how enormously extended the credit system is in this country. English trade is essentially a trade on borrowed capital; this fact implies an immense economy of the wealth-producing powers of the country. It is only through the refinement of our banking system that we are able to do the sort of trade we do, or to get through so much. But in proportion to the power of this system are its delicacy and its danger. Of the many millions of borrowed money now being used for trading purposes, the great proportion is held by London bankers and others on short notice or on demand. If the majority of the owners of this money were to demand its payment, our industrial system would be shaken to its foundation. A financial panic means simply that some of the lenders are demanding payment. The question is, what power have the London bankers and brokers to refund the money lent to them by their depositors? Where is the reserve of cash necessary to meet the demands of their creditors should they take fright? The London bankers do not maintain a reserve for this purpose themselves; they do not hold in their own tills any amount of substantial importance beyond what is wanted for daily purposes. They do not keep a single farthing lying unproductive if they can with safety employ it at interest. They all have their principal reserve on deposit at the Bank of England. This is the case not only with the London banks, but with the banks all over the country.—

"All country bankers keep their reserve in London. They only retain in each country town the minimum of cash necessary to the transaction of the current business of that country town. Long experience has told them to a nicety how much this is, and they do not waste capital and lose profit by keeping more idle. They send the money to London, invest a part of it in securities, and keep the rest with the London bankers and bill-brokers. The habit of Scotch and Irish bankers is much the

same. All their spare money is in London, and is invested as all other London money now is; and therefore the reserve in the Banking Department of the Bank of England is the banking reserve not only of the Bank of England, but of all London; and not only of all London, but of all England, Ireland, and Scotland too."

Our author then points out that of late there has been a still further increase of our liabilities. Since the Bank of France suspended cash payments, the Bank of England has become the Bank of the whole continent of Europe; the Bank of England keeps the cash reserve not only for the British Empire, but for the whole of Europe. Consequently, all our credit system depends on the Bank of England for its security. "On the wisdom of the Directors of that one Joint-Stock Company it depends whether England shall be solvent or insolvent." It therefore follows that it is the duty of the Bank of England to keep a cash reserve sufficiently large to enable it to meet any sudden demand. Other bankers, in times of pressure, apply to the Bank of England for their deposits: the Bank of England, at such a time, can rely on nothing but its own cash reserve. It is frequently said that there is nothing peculiar in the position of the Bank of England, and that it ought to be managed on the same principles as any other well-conducted London bank. Mr. Bagehot's reasoning shows, however, that there is a most essential difference between the Bank of England and all other banks:—that whereas the directors of all other banks keep, with a view to profit, as small a part as possible of their liabilities lying idle, the Bank of England, as the ultimate cash reserve of our whole banking system, is obliged to keep a very large proportion of its liabilities lying idle. If this were not done, the inevitable run on the Bank in times of panic would cause a suspension of cash payments—in other words, the stoppage of the Bank. It is sometimes said that the Bank might safely reduce its reserve, and that in times of panic it could sell its securities; but this reasoning is transparently fallacious. The characteristic of a panic is, that it is impossible to sell; everybody who has money refuses to part with it; every one who has not money, but who has securities, goes to the Bank of England to change those securities for cash. If the Bank of England, during a panic, refused to diminish its reserve by discounting good bills, the result would be to intensify the panic tenfold. To refuse to part with the reserve during a panic would be to relinquish the principal use of having a reserve. The true policy for the Bank of England to pursue during a time of monetary apprehension is, to lend the reserve freely on good security, and at an augmented rate of interest. Advances ought to be made boldly, and in such a way as to convince the public that, though money is dear, still it is to be had. This is not the policy now pursued by the Bank. In the first place, there has never been a distinct and unmistakable acknowledgment on the part of the Directors that they are, in fact, trustees for the public, to keep a large banking reserve on their behalf; in the second place, they have never recognized that it is necessary for their own safety to lend that reserve boldly and freely, on good securities, during a monetary crisis.

"In 1847, even in 1866, . . . there was an instant when it was believed that the Bank would

not advance on Consols, or at least hesitated to advance on them. The moment this was reported in the City, and telegraphed to the country, it made the panic indefinitely worse. In fact, to make large advances in this faltering way is to incur the evil of making them without gaining the advantage. . . . If people could really be convinced that they could have money if they wait a day or two, and that utter ruin is not coming, most likely they would cease to run in such a mad way for money. Either shut the Bank at once, and say it will not lend more than it commonly lends, or lend freely, boldly, so that the public may feel you mean to go on lending. To lend a great deal, and yet not to give the public confidence that you will lend sufficiently and effectually, is the worst of all policies; but it is the policy now pursued."

Mr. Bagehot does not confine himself to finding fault with the present policy of the Bank Directors, and with the constitution of the governing body of the Bank. He makes certain definite suggestions for the amelioration of the evils of which he complains. It is startling to the minds of those who have been brought up in the idea that there is a sort of divinity hedging the Bank of England, which renders it superior to all commercial vicissitudes, to learn that the whole credit system of the country depends on the sagacity of six-and-twenty gentlemen, none of whom has had any previous training in the banking business, all of whom are engaged in extensive mercantile pursuits of their own, and who are pecuniarily entirely independent of the success or failure of the Bank. Still more startling is it to be reminded of the "miserable catalogue" of the mistakes of the Directors of the Bank of England at various periods of their history. For an account of the reforms in the constitution of the governing body of the Bank of England recommended by Mr. Bagehot, we must refer our readers to his book. 'Lombard Street' will repay a careful and critical perusal. Besides its main topic, the management of the reserve of the Bank of England, it is full of most interesting economic history; and it is also enriched by striking and ingenious examples, taken from every-day events, of the operation of economic principles. Chap. III., called "How Lombard Street came to exist, and why it assumed its present form," is one of the happiest illustrations of both these characteristics. Readers of the *Economist* will not regret that 'Lombard Street' contains several articles reprinted from that journal; it is needless to say that those who do not see the *Economist* will find in these articles much information that is both new and useful.

Heresy and Christian Doctrine By É. de Pressensé, D.D. Translated by Annie Harwood. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

THIS is the third volume of a series in which Dr. Pressensé has undertaken to describe the history of the Church during the first three centuries of the Christian era. The author's standpoint is that of moderate orthodoxy, whence he surveys the internal movements of the Christian body. He writes in a spirit of fairness and candour. He is not a partisan eager to defend a certain system, or to transfer later types of thought and doctrine to times they will not suit. His style is good, often eloquent, always perspicuous. The book can hardly be called scientific or philosophical; neither is it popular; but it holds an intermediate place, being half

scientific, half popular. It presents processes, more frequently, however, results, in a popular form, so that the general reader will be attracted. The ground, although traversed already by such men as Neander and Baur, may well be surveyed again, and presented under another aspect. The author seems to be familiar with the works of those who have thrown most light upon the subjects he discusses. Besides the two great historians mentioned, he has studied Ritschl, Dorner, Moehler, Ecausobre, and others, without neglecting the original writings themselves, which he quotes throughout. His own opinions are not obtruded. They are hinted and suggested, when Dr. Pressensé explains the defects of the doctrines described; or their erroneous character viewed in the light of Scripture. The learned author sees clearly that the leading doctrines of the Church during the Ante-Nicene period varied from those which were subsequently formulated and decreed. Latitude of opinion prevailed in the earliest centuries in regard to the Deity, man, restoration to the divine favour, salvation, and future life. The lines of thought were distinct in different countries and schools, according to the prevailing tendencies of thought and race; metaphysical creeds drawn up by councils had not then hardened dogma into a rigid system; the process of development had not been completed, and toleration prevailed within the Church to an extent which was subsequently unknown. The heresies then rife promoted life; and independent thought was not suppressed by imperial edicts.

It would be unreasonable to expect in the present volume what is absolutely new. There is little room for novelty of matter. All that can be looked for is the exhibition of topics already known in a light corresponding to the author's intellectual qualities and religious opinions. Dr. Pressensé does not aspire to be an original writer in the proper sense of that word. He simply attempts to delineate the first three centuries in his own way, having prepared himself for the task by a careful study of the materials within his reach.

The first portion of the volume, that on Heresy, is not so good as the second. The chapter on Judaizing Heresy, the Ebionites and Clementines, &c., is by no means satisfactory. The author misapprehends to a great extent those called Ebionites, and the state of parties in the Church in the second century. When he tells us there are three distinctly marked sections in the Judæo-Christian community from the times of the Apostles, the first living in perfect harmony with the Pauline party, and that these schools re-appeared in the second century, he conjures up a school which was non-existent. A few isolated individuals may have held to the conciliatory decisions of the Council of Jerusalem: there was neither a school nor a party. By what influences the Catholic Church was formed, what parties were gradually fused through the external pressure of Gnosticism and the internal rubbing away of angular points of belief, as well as by the Platonic ideas that radiated from Alexandria, we cannot learn from the pages of the book. With regard to the Clementine literature, Dr. Pressensé chiefly follows Uhlhorn, and errs accordingly. He places the Homilies at an earlier date than the Recognitions. Hilgenfeld, however, has proved the untenability of this opinion. The ques-

tion cannot be decided in Uhlhorn's off-hand way, because the Homilies, as well as the Recognitions, rest upon older documents, especially upon the *Kerygma* of Peter, themselves based on an older form of the story. The farther back the matter is traced, the more evident does it become that the romance was a connected story of Jewish-Christian origin, in which Peter followed Simon from Caesarea to Rome, and that Rome was its birthplace. The first three books of the Recognitions are older than the Homilies, so far as they represent a prior document. It is, therefore, too late to rely on Uhlhorn, since his views have been overthrown by Hilgenfeld and Lipsius. Even Schliemann, who wrote against Baur, admits that Rome was the place where the Homilies first appeared.

The account of Sabellius is short and inadequate, giving but a faint outline of the sentiments which he really held. It should be enlarged and corrected by the able discussion of Schleiermacher.

The chapter on the Apocryphal Literature of the Second and Third Centuries is mainly founded on Nicolas's book, and contributes nothing to what was already known. The best portion of the volume is that which gives the theology of the Alexandrian school. Here the views of Clement and Origen are developed with admirable fullness and lucidity. The Greco-Roman and Carthaginian schools, the former including Irenæus and Hippolytus, and the latter Tertullian and Cyprian, are also sketched in fair outlines. We do not think, however, that Dr. Pressensé does justice to the views of the Alexandrian school respecting the nature of God. The author is averse to Platonism and abstract ideas. His fear of Pantheism is also apparent, so that he frequently resolves tendencies and opinions into that system. Hence we are informed that Sabellius lands in positive Pantheism. Ebionitism and Unitarianism also fall inevitably into the arms of the same. Another phenomenon which affrights our author is Platonism, or Platonist abstractions, so that he dislikes the beautiful language in which Origen describes the first principle or the Absolute. Idealism has no attraction for orthodox realism. The leading doctrines which form the test of these Fathers in our author's mind, or those, at least, by which he judges them as to the essence of their faith, are sacrifice, expiation, redemption, justification. Wherever he finds a serious defect or omission in their opinions, it is in connexion with these. A few extracts will show Dr. Pressensé's method of exposition. At the end of his summary of Origen's opinions, he says:—

"Origen displays all his originality and boldness of conception in his doctrine of the consummation of all things. He first treats of our condition after death. The soul of the good is carried into an earthly paradise, which, however, still belongs to our world, and forms a solitary island. This is the first place of purification, but is far superior to any we have known during our bodily existence. The soul then enters an intermediate paradise, where it undergoes a second purification. Then, as it becomes freed from all that defiled it, it rises in the pure ether to God. The souls of the wicked are subjected in Hades to cruel torments, but these have also a purifying virtue. The fire which devours them is no flame of earth; sin is its own chastisement, and its memory alone is sufficient punishment of the guilty. Apart from this purely individual history of souls, the kingdom of God

has its development upon earth. Antichrist will, in the end of the ages, re-unite all the forces of evil for one final conflict. After this will come the judgment, and the end of the world inaugurated by the return of Christ. All the prophetic symbols of this event, however, are to be spiritualized. If Israel is to share like other nations in the glories of the future, no idea must be entertained of its local and material restoration. To compare the heavenly Jerusalem to a city built of stone is nothing short of blasphemy. Let us put aside all these old-wives' fables invented by the Jews, and picture to ourselves the return of the Word in its true aspect. He will return, not materially, but spiritually. Our world will not be preserved, but renovated, to receive a glorious humanity, clothed in ethereal bodies. It may be said that Christ has truly come again in His glory, when the manifestation of His divinity shall be so overwhelming that not only none of the righteous, but no sinner shall be able to doubt what He really is. Nor will this be the full consummation. That will only come when God shall be all in all, that is, when spirits fully discharged from their oppressive prison shall return to their primitive unity, — evil being abolished not by annihilation, but by the conversion of the wicked. Then creation will have realized its eternal idea, as that is found in the Word. 'The love of God by Christ will bring all creatures to the same end, His enemies themselves being vanquished and subdued, for the end is to be as the beginning.' As we have observed, however, this final restoration has no guarantee of permanency. The liberty of the creature will always make it possible for him to stake and lose his destiny of bliss, while still evil shall never ultimately triumph over good, the final utterance being ever that of victorious love. It is, in fact, a circle which is never completed, or rather a sphere perpetually revolving through the countless ages of eternity."

Again:—

"The first practical lesson it will teach is this—to repudiate alike the religious radicalism which denies revelation, and the narrow orthodoxy which insists on the acceptance of its own interpretations. In truth, neither the one tendency nor the other finds any sanction in the heroic Church, which was wise enough to encounter fundamental errors with the simple weapon of free discussion, and to vindicate the legitimate independence of the human mind by the very variety of its schools and its formularies."

The book deserves hearty commendation, however much we may differ from some of the author's judgments in it. Though treating of theological tenets very diverse, as well as of heresies commonly considered dangerous, it brings out the varying phases of belief which prevailed in the earliest centuries, and seeks to account for them without indulging in harsh condemnation. The lesson taught is that of due allowance for diversity in unity, for the recognition of true faith amid intellectual speculations, of religion amid doctrinal aberrations. The author has his own creed, but he holds it charitably while he endeavours to do justice to the sentiments and character of illustrious men that lived noble lives, sustained by the power of Christianity unto death.

The translation is good and reads well; but some one acquainted with ecclesiastical literature should have been employed to correct the press. The mistakes are numerous: such blunders as Combeif, Clement's Stromates, John Damascena, Antechristus, Tertullian's 'De Praescriptiones,' Basnages, Bleck, &c., Uhlhorn's 'Homil. Recognd.,' &c., disfigure the pages.

CAMBRIDGE EDUCATION.

The Conflict of Studies, and other Essays. By
I. Todhunter, M.A. (Macmillan & Co.)

IN the six essays here introduced to our notice, Mr. Todhunter brings forward the opinions and conclusions to which long continued observation, carried on during his career as teacher and examiner, has brought him. 'The Conflict of Studies' is an endeavour to estimate the educational value of the branches of study most prevalent in schools and in the Universities. After touching on the question whether the aim of education is to benefit chiefly the individual or the community, Mr. Todhunter proceeds to defend the old studies of mathematics and the classics against their younger rivals, the natural and experimental sciences, history and philology, arguing that the greater definiteness of the former, and their consequent adaptability for examination purposes, give them a value which cannot be conceded to the latter; while he disallows the argument generally urged on behalf of these more recent studies that observation is by them more completely developed, a result, he says, not so certain as it is sometimes represented to be. Mr. Todhunter's ideas regarding the introduction of the sciences into schools are nearly identical with those of the late Dr. Whewell, whom he quotes; and he considers that, instead of being made to supplant the established modes of training, they should be occasionally introduced more as pastime than as work. To mathematics as a means of mental discipline, Mr. Todhunter gives the palm; yet he does not shrink from setting forth the disadvantages of an exclusively mathematical training. In the essay on Competitive Examinations are discussed, amongst other things, the evils consequent upon their present severity and length, and the unsatisfactory nature of their results. Not only do such long and severe trials tend to impair the mental vigour of those who prepare for and undergo them, but they also foster an abnormal growth of certain faculties, and, by leaving others neglected, fail to educate. The influence of all this on the schools which prepare boys for the University examinations is well treated of.

Besides the matter which we have just mentioned, Mr. Todhunter discusses several proposals for improving the method of carrying on these examinations, viz., *vivid voce*, a system of negative marks for mistakes, and the shortening of the papers. He regards the plan of *vivid voce* examination as scarcely practicable. The method of negative marks which he mentions can hardly be regarded as an improvement; the plan of setting shorter papers, which Mr. Todhunter here, and in his last essay, commends, seems the most practicable of the suggestions mentioned. Mr. Todhunter condemns the practice of allowing private tutors, in these examinations, to examine their own pupils, a practice for which there can be no excuse; and he passes on to warn us that we must not trust too much to the results of competitive examinations, that they are only tentative, and that the result may, or may not, decide a man's real position among his peers. Examination for Fellowships Mr. Todhunter thinks needless—it is only, he says, continuing a man's studies in the path he has been treading since his early youth; and he thinks that the

Tripos, especially when the previous college examinations are taken into account, is a sufficient criterion, and that a further examination is "unduly favourable to those who have already some private means, and are in less need of a Fellowship." There is only one college in Cambridge where the gaining of Fellowships really depends on the examination for them. In that the test is certainly other than merely an examination in the subjects of the Triposes, and the improvements lately introduced there have further widened the range of subject. A Fellowship examination may tell in favour of the rich; but it does so less than the rewards to be gained in the colleges before the time of taking the Bachelor's degree. In a general University examination, like each of the Triposes, with their over long papers and protracted duration, merit means marks gained plus health as much as anything else. It could scarce be otherwise there; but in the smaller sphere of a college, where a student's diligence, relative improvement, behaviour, means, and health are more likely to be known, stern rigidity in trusting to marks is the extreme of justice which becomes injustice, and the want of a previous training can doom abilities, accompanied by feeble health, to the loss of those emoluments which would enable a man of slender means to continue his reading, and compete in the Fellowship examination with those more fortunately circumstanced than he. In the next essay, on the Private Study of Mathematics, we have some hints, useful to those who are without instruction, and are following the study for its own sake, as well as those who are reading unassisted for the University examinations. It might, we think, have been better to publish this essay separately, since it may be questioned if those whom it would benefit are likely to look for it under such a title as the present volume bears.

There are few acquainted with Mr. Todhunter's position in the University who will not turn with interest to the essay on Academic Reform. The questions discussed relate to Clerical Fellowships, Headships of Colleges, Private Tutors, Professors, the Parliamentary Representation of the University, the Influence of Athletic Sports, and the various propositions which have been broached for alterations in the tenure of Fellowships. On the subject of Clerical Fellowships, Mr. Todhunter says, "I apprehend that the question may be considered practically decided, and that the restriction cannot be much longer maintained." As this is undoubtedly true, the discussion of the subject seems not of much practical importance. Our author regards the heads of colleges rather as managers of the University than of their separate colleges, and does not see any adequate reason for restricting the office to clergymen. Dislike to the system of poll tutors is not peculiar to Mr. Todhunter. It is more easy, however, to condemn the system than to sweep it away. Our author thinks it would be well if the Electoral Roll consisted of those only who have graduated in honours, and if the University ceased to return members to Parliament. As to the system of Fellowships, Mr. Todhunter believes that if there is no prospect of changing the habit of looking on Fellowships as mere rewards for past industry and attainments, it would be "a great improvement in detail to double the number of Fellowships, reducing, of course, the emolument to half its

present amount," so that "the area may be widened from which we may look for the science and learning of the future." Mr. Todhunter's views are moderate. "It can hardly be doubted," he says, "that in the course of a few years we shall see some great changes made in the employment and distribution of the revenues of the Colleges and Universities." And again, "No one who has resided long in the University can avoid expressing the hope that, whatever changes await us, the great merits which belong to the place will remain unimpaired."

The essay on Elementary Geometry contains a defence of Euclid against those who wish to introduce other text-books in its stead. Mr. Todhunter, besides adducing his own experience to bear upon the point, maintains that English mathematicians who have had Euclid as part of their training, can more than compete with their rivals abroad; and he fairly enough challenges those who wish to cast Euclid aside to produce a book which shall be shown to lay a better foundation for mathematics. The last essay is on the Mathematical Tripos, its history, its aim, and its defects. Is its aim to develop every year a few mathematicians, or to test the powers and education of the men who prepare for it? Considering it as intended chiefly to test the abilities of the candidates, Mr. Todhunter brings out well its defects, principally these: the range of subjects is too wide, needlessly wide, he says, for deciding the claims of the highest men, the papers much too long, the length of the examination too great. On this point there is a repetition of the opinions put forth in essay two; and what Mr. Todhunter says of the Mathematical Tripos is applicable to the other University honour examinations, in which memory and health have almost equal chances of reward with real ability. The last topic broached is the examination for the Smith's Prizes, which Mr. Todhunter condemns as useless, and too great a strain so soon after the Mathematical Tripos, which has already decided, on wider grounds, the positions of the candidates.

TWO TRAGEDIES.

The Curse of Immortality. By A. Eubule-Evans. (Macmillan & Co.)

The Tragedy of Israel. By George Francis Armstrong, M.A. (Longmans & Co.)

MR. EUBULE-EVANS has put an end to the Wandering Jew. We had hoped that the weird figure, in fulfilment of his doom, still wandered in the Carpathians, or was halting at Nürnberg or Bamberg, or went in and out among the *peasantry* of Brittany or West Wales. But his toils have ceased. Whether from jealousy of succeeding authors (Addison killed Sir Roger de Coverley, lest another and meaner pen should maltreat him), or from mere caprice, Mr. Eubule-Evans has slain Ahasuerus.

The Wandering Jew is an attractive subject: a vague shadowy form; mortal and yet immortal; typical at once of man's liability to death, and of his everlasting existence. He has the passions and anxieties and sorrows of manhood, and is endowed with a function which places him beyond the operations of Providence. Mr. Evans has departed from the mediæval myth. He has changed the name of his hero, and altered some of his tradi-

tional characteristics. The Jew is represented, not as a repentant sinner pursued by the implacable vengeance of the Almighty, but as refusing in his pride to purchase the repose of death at the cost of self-abasement and contrition. The period, too, at the end of which, according to the received version of the myth, he regained his youthful vigour, has been reduced from a century to forty years.

The conception of the story is fine. Theudas, as the Jew is named, in passing a cavern on Mount Ararat, espies a maiden surrounded by Satan and a troop of his demons, from whom he rescues her. Leila was the beloved of another; but eventually she abandons him and all for her preserver, and, young and handsome, the two sally forth into the world—he to recommence his wanderings, and she to be his companion and helmate. At the end of forty years they are on the road from Mayence to Frankfort. Each, in view of the change awaiting him, promises fidelity to the other. As they talk they are accosted by Satan, still eager for vengeance, and Epithumia, the most beautiful of his minions—both disguised as German peasants. On reaching Frankfort the fiend, by means of artifice, so excites the jealousy of Theudas, that, believing her false on whom for forty years he has lavished his love, he flies the city in company with Epithumia. Leila, however, cannot be persuaded of her lover's inconstancy, and, in her distraction, rushes forth in pursuit. Theudas, meanwhile, has reached the shore of the Lake of Geneva; and there, while plunged in that mysterious sleep which periodically restores him to youth and beauty, he is discovered by Leila and by Satan, who has aided her in the search. Then comes the end. At first Leila cannot believe the youth of gracious presence to be her husband, but the assurances of her new companion and of Epithumia, who boasts of the sleeper's love, convince her. She stoops to take a farewell kiss, when Theudas opens his eyes drowsily.

Theudas. My mother! [Closes his eyes again.
Leila. Ah! he calls me mother—me
His wife for forty years. His mind is young
Once more, and at the sight of my wan features,
Deep-lined with wrinkles, all his memory
Reverts to his first manhood, when there hung
Some age-worn face in motherly caress
Above his own.

I needed not this word
To tell me it were better that I died.

Once more she kisses him, and then turns, and flies towards the lake. At that instant Theudas awakes. He rushes after her. But it is too late. He finds, at the same time, that Leila has been true to him, and that Satan, who, as well as Epithumia, has thrown off his disguise, has satisfied his revenge. At first, in the agony of his despair, he resolves to fulfil his course to the end; but, finally, craving forgiveness for his great sin, he sinks down and dies.

Mr. Evans has, on the whole, executed his scheme well. The characters are kept in equilibrium; the scenes are judiciously arranged; and the dialogue is often strong and dramatic. Occasionally, however, the rhythm is faulty, and the language terribly unpoetical. Here are words put into the mouth of Satan:—

One night like this is worth,
For focussed authority and force
Full-blossom'd in destruction, centuries
Of crawling sovereignty legitimate!

The following, again, reminds us of the Transpontine drama:—

Leila. Let me up.
Or strong or weak, I will not be denied.
[Rises and totters to her mother.
Mother! No answer! Mother! It is I,
Thy Leila—thy little one—nay, speak.
Thy silence frets me—galls the wound still sore
With recent suffering—Mother, speak to me—
Nay but one little word; I ask no more
To bid me welcome. Ha! a horrid thought
Grows to swift ripeness in my breast. Good God!
It cannot, must not, shall not be; and yet
She lies so awfully serene and still—
Come, I will venture a caress.

[Stoops down and kisses her mother.
She's dead!
[Swoons away again.

Had Theudas continued his renewed life under his doomed condition, the *finale* of the play would have been more poetical, and a chance would be left to succeeding dramatists.

Saul is one of the finest figures in literature. He has epic grandeur. The lines of his character are heroic. There is none of Shakspeare's creations equal to what we imagine him; none of the passions delineated by the master dramatist is to be compared, for dramatic uses, with that demoniacal passion which consumed the King of Israel. And yet, although many attempts have been made to deal dramatically with the character, there has been no adequate result. And, where many have failed, Mr. Armstrong cannot be said to have succeeded.

In our notice of a previous play by Mr. Armstrong we expressed our opinion that the author had caught the dramatic ictus as well as the dramatic phraseology. We have now to add that he has not improved in his art. The subject selected—the struggle between Humanity and Deity—is too great for his grasp. The central figure is not well posed, and the people who surround him are not placed in the best light. There is too much self-questioning in the characters that crowd the scene, and the strength exhibited by the writer is metaphysical, not dramatic.

After the death of Saul the interest flags, and the talk of the attendants tires us. The final speech of three pages uttered by David reminds us of Richmond's address on Bosworth Field, after the destruction of Richard the Third, and this, as well as the whole of the act in which it occurs, could well be spared. Some of the speeches are too long, and recall the work of other authors. Saul's address to God is not unlike a passage in 'Atalanta in Calydon':—

The dead are earth, the living, as the dead,
Corpse-like transformed through years and utter wrong
From those I loved, and I that loved them walk
The withered leafy ways, a lonely soul—
They, the rath buds of girlhood, spoilt of worms,
And they, the youths that would have climbed to
heaven

Dashed to the ground, to ravin with the dogs,
And growl at one another in the mire,
With streaming jaws, and eyes that glare blood-red,
Spurned by Thy foot. The weaker as the strong
Are smitten; yea, the sockets of soft eyes
Are stuffed with earth, and cold is all desire;
Cold are the eastern and the western skies;
Sweet dreams the parching east wind bites and slays.
We find, we fail, my soul itself hath lost.
I dream but of a dream.

Then there are Shakspearian passages and Miltonic passages. Indeed, throughout the whole drama we hear repeated echoes of former singers, instead of original airs. As

we see "Saul" is the first of the Trilogy to be entitled 'The Tragedy of Israel,' we will not further discourage Mr. Armstrong. In the two plays that are to follow, we shall, however, look for improvement upon this one.

A History of Plymouth. By Llewellynn Jewitt. Illustrated with Wood Engravings. (London, Simpkin & Marshall; Plymouth, Luke.)

TILL within about a couple of years, the important town of Plymouth, which has a story as interesting as any town in the British Empire, lacked an historian, and now it has the advantage of two. Mr. Worth published, in 1871, his meritorious little book of between three and four hundred pages. Mr. Jewitt has since issued for the library his volume, of some seven hundred pages. A man may walk about Plymouth with Mr. Worth's book, and read it as he walks. To Mr. Jewitt's he may refer before he sets out, for guidance or after his return, for enlightenment. Thus, both works have their uses. Mr. Jewitt, indeed, is a little annoyed at Mr. Worth being first in the field; and, rather uncivilly, calls Mr. Worth a "compiler." But Mr. Jewitt is more of a "compiler" than the former gentleman, inasmuch as his book is larger than Mr. Worth's. Both compilations are creditable to their respective editors, and we congratulate Mr. Jewitt on the fact that, after hoping Mr. Worth may be able to reconcile his naughtiness to his conscience, he recovers his natural good feeling with this satisfactory outburst:—"In a large town like Plymouth, there is room enough for all, and I heartily congratulate the town that, instead of having no written history at all, it has now the advantage of having two, which, so far from interfering with each other, may well stand side by side on the library shelf."

And now to come to the town of which this volume tells. No small part of the early history of Plymouth has to be filled up with a "probably," or a "perhaps," a "perchance," or with a whole troops of conjectures. A Roman coin is quite sufficient to fill most compilers with an irrepressible desire to tell the story of the four centuries of Roman occupation, a story which has never yet been properly told. However, in reference to Plymouth, we confess we care little for what may be called its hypothetical history.

The first Mayor of Plymouth dates from 1439, and—he was a Yorkshireman. William Ketric was "one of the more honest men" of his day, as it behoved a Mayor to be who had to put dishonesty in the stocks. Ketric was "a little squat man, remarkable for shooting with the strong bow." But the little man had a large heart. At his installation feast, there stood upon the board a pie, "composed of all sorts of fish, flesh, and fowl that could be gotten. It was fourteen feet long, and four feet broad, and an oven was built on purpose for its baking." How many feet of this dainty dish were consumed by the guests we do not know; but the dish bequeathed a proverb to Plymouth, where immensity is implied in the modern phrase, "as big as Ketherich's pie." Not many Mayors are remembered so long.

Tenderly-affectionate was at least one of the Plymouth worships; to wit, Walter Clovelly who, in the fifteenth century, was so affected by the death of his spouse, that he never after

lay razor upon his chin. Irreverent youths called after this model of Mayors and husbands as he passed, "Goat-Beard!" Indeed, the Plymouth people were much given to inventing nicknames. Clovelly's successor was one Pollard; but "Pull-hard!" was his popular cognomen, applied in honour; for he, like Ketric, was a master in archery. His bow was as the bow of Ulysses, nobody could bend it but himself; and nobody could send an arrow on its flight, but that "Pull-hard" would beat him by sixty paces! Wonderfully cunning were some of those fifteenth century Mayors of Plymouth. The artfulness of William Nycole is worthily recorded in the story of his detection of one who was suspected of being a counterfeit dumb man. "Poor fellow!" said Nycole, "and how long have you been dumb?"—"Your Worship," said the foolish knave, unguardedly, "I was born so!" But not many Mayors had the supreme craft of Nycole. Too much pride brought John Facey to grief. He was so vain of his dignity, that wrath possessed him if others, for moment, forgot it. Once on the bench, too, he struck the Town Clerk, who, addressing him, had omitted to say "Your Worship." The Mayor had not only to smart for this in purse, but the Plymouth boys hailed him in the streets as "Worship Facey"; and he, "being remarkably choleric," would run after them, calling them by a name which was not so much a censure upon them as a reflection upon their mothers. Facey, however, must have had great official qualifications, for two years after he had dealt a box of the ear to the Town Clerk, Facey was re-elected. There was a spice of humour as well as of pride in his nature, for he told the corporate body,—"You might as well have continued me the whole three years" (Mayor Carwynnwick had come between), "and that would have saved you the trouble of choosing me again!" Some of their Worships were men who were not to be trifled with. The most pious, John Paige, was the most merciless in punishing the least violation of the laws. Another Mayor, Dernford, was a wit with an appetite. On the day of installation he had a fit at church; but he afterwards managed to eat a fine Michaelmas goose at dinner! It is recorded of Mayor Carwynnwick (1457), that he "appeared at church with laced bonnet and buckles in his shoes!" Of humbler quality was William Yoggie, who, Mayor as he was, "would bear home his meat from market with his own hand," remarking, "Twere a sorry horse that would not carry his own prover."

It must be admitted that the Mayors of the York and Lancaster period had great difficulties to contend with. In Patelysden's year, Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses went to church with red roses in their hats, all for King Henry; but when the Sun of York waxed brighter, they prudently dropped the symbol. In a subsequent year, the Mayor wished to force the Yorkist Vicar to pray for the Lancastrian King. Great wrath was caused by the Vicar's having "stubbornly refused, yet not unwisely"; for, in the very same year, the Mayor entertained the Duke of Clarence, and drank to the health of King Edward, to the intense delight of the chuckling and cheering Vicar! Mayor Bovey has come down to us as "less of the stork than the log." In 1492, the great event of Thick-penny's Mayoralty was the establishment of

annual Church Ales, "for the honour of God"! No vendor of ale or wine in the borough sold either liquor on Corpus Christi day. All the profits derived from those who got piously drunk were monopolized by the Church authorities. Freemen and aliens were encouraged to tipple; but aliens were never admitted to freedom, except "the persons of Normandy, Gascony, Guyenne, Ireland, Calais, and Berwick, and the borders of the same being English." Freemen and aliens, however, shared in one privilege. An Indulgence of forty days was given to all, being penitent, who helped to build walls and fortifications when these were needed. There was no lack of amusements in Elizabeth's time. We find among the Corporation accounts Sir Percival Harte's players, or those of Sir Harry Fortescue, or of the Earl of Warwick, the Earl of Worcester, or of the Queen herself, receiving for their fee from five shillings to a pound sterling; the higher guerdon going to "Her Majesty's servants."

By far the most illustrious of the Mayors of Plymouth was Sir Francis Drake, and the most interesting item concerning him is to this effect:—"On Whitsunday Eve, being the 24th May (1572, anterior to the mayoralty), Captain Drake, in the Pascha, of Plymouth, of 70 tons . . . with the Swan, of Plymouth, 25 tons, in which his brother John Drake, was captain, having in both 73 men and boys . . . set sail out of the Sound of Plymouth, with intent to land at Nombra da Dios." Readers of Ben Jonson will remember Knowell's allusion ('Every Man in his Humour') to "Drake's old ship at Deptford." Plymouth could never boast of such another Mayor. Indeed, the office, in 1604 suffered disparagement. Sir Richard Hawkins was succeeded by his own servant, Matthews, whose wife had been Lady Hawkins's maid! My lady, disdaining to sit below her former Abigail at a feast, had a struggle for the higher place, during which the mistress gave her ex-maid a box on the ear, for which indignity Sir Richard compensated by presenting a house to the town as a peace-offering. In later days, political prejudices were strong. In 1704 Mayor Darracott, says a Tory chronicler, "proved a shuffler, and abetted the Whigs." Two years later Allen seems to have won all hearts, in spite of politics; "none equalling him for goodness of meat and drink at his entertainments." Then we hear of Cowne, "a tool and a fool," and other men "of mean and scandalous origin." As mayor succeeds to mayor, the personal incidents become fewer, and we miss the quaint remarks of the old chronicler. Public and local events are recorded in connexion with their worship, and among them we are told how, in 1827 (Pridham, Mayor), the Archdukes John and Charles sailed from Plymouth on a Sunday; and, "precisely as the first gun announced their departure, the officiating minister of St. Andrews came to the verse (37, Psalm cv.), 'Egypt was glad at their departing, for they were afraid of them.'"

Plymouth is a place connected with so much of English history, that a volume on such a subject could not fail to be interesting; and we congratulate the town on having such worthy chroniclers as Messrs. Worth and Llewellynn Jewitt.

The Land of Moab. By H. B. Tristram, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S. (Murray.)

DR. TRISTRAM'S account of his visit to Moab will be welcomed by all who have longed to know something more of a country so intimately connected with the history of the Israelites than can be gathered from the writings of Seetzen, Irby and Mangles, Burckhardt, De Sauly, &c. Pleasantly written and well illustrated, the narrative sustains its interest throughout, and gives a vivid picture of the present condition of the country.

From Jerusalem, Dr. Tristram and his fellow travellers followed the usual route, *via* Hebron and Engedy, to the southern end of the Dead Sea; but hardly had they entered the Sáfeh when they were carried off, unwilling guests, to enjoy the hospitality of the Sheikh of Kerak, and were lodged for security in the Castle of Bibars. It soon appeared that the price of Englishmen had risen in the Kerak market since Mr. Layard was sold for ten pounds to a passing Bedawi Sheikh, for their host insisted upon fixing their ransom at no less a sum than 600*l.* A messenger was sent to the English Consul at Jerusalem, and the Turkish Government took prompt measures to secure their release, but before these could have any effect, all difficulties had been removed by the opportune arrival of Sheikh Zadram, who at once claimed them as his guests, much to the chagrin of the old Sheikh and his needy followers. Under the protection of the powerful chief of the Beni Sakk'r no difficulty was experienced in moving freely over the country and visiting every point of interest. A tour through Moab under such favourable circumstances could not fail to be productive of results, and Dr. Tristram may well be satisfied with those which he obtained, including, as they do, the recovery of several ancient sites, and the finding of a Persian palace, which "casts a ray of light on one of the most obscure periods of later Roman history."

The territory occupied by the Moabites lay to the east of the Dead Sea and Jordan, and appears to have been divided into three districts: Moab proper, the "field of Moab," Ruth i. 1, 2, lying south of the Arnon (Wády Mojib); the "land of Moab" of Deut. i. 5, extending northwards from the Arnon to the hills of Gilead; and the Arboth Moab, or plain of Shittim (Seisaban), north of the Dead Sea, on which the Israelites encamped before they passed over Jordan. At one period, a Moabite king, Eglon, ruled at Jericho for eighteen years, but this seems the only occasion on which any of the country west of Jordan was included in the Moabite Kingdom.

The country is, for the most part, an elevated plateau, not unlike the downs in the South of England in its general character, which, from fifty to sixty miles in length, and twenty to thirty in width, merges on the east into the great eastern plains, and on the west breaks down abruptly to the level of the Dead Sea. The general elevation of the plateau is 3,000 feet above the sea, and its surface, in spring-time, is clothed with rich herbage, which provides abundant pasture for the countless flocks and herds of the Beni Sakk'r; the soil, though neglected, is extremely rich, "a fine red, sandy loam, which, year after year, grows successive crops of wheat, without manure," and everywhere traces of former cultivation,

gardens, and vineyards, are to be found. Numerous "tells," or knolls, still known by their Moabite name, "Harith," rise above the general level of the plain, and these are generally covered with the ruins of ancient towns and villages, the sites having been apparently selected on account of the facilities which the limestone afforded for the excavation of cisterns to collect the rainfall. Occasionally, as at Dibon and Kiriathaim, the towns were built on two adjacent knolls, the buildings covering not only the tops, but the sides, to their base, and surrounded by one common wall. At the eastern edge of the plateau several valleys take their rise, which, at first little more than shallow watercourses, gradually deepen as they run westwards, and eventually discharge their waters into the Dead Sea through gorges of extraordinary depth and wildness. Of these the most important are the Wadies Kerak, Mojib (Arnon), and Zerka Ma'in (Callirhoe), great chasms more than 2,000 feet deep, the romantic scenery of which is well described by Dr. Tristram. As might be expected in a country which varies in altitude from 4,000 feet above the sea to 1,300 feet below it, the climate is very variable; on the plateau we find the thermometer falling, at night, to 24° Fahr., whilst three days afterwards it was 76° at midnight, near the shores of the Dead Sea. No less diversified are the Flora and Fauna, northern and southern forms of animal and vegetable life being found within the narrowest limits. A most interesting paper on the Flora of Moab, by the late Mr. Hayne, is given in the Appendix, and it is much to be regretted that Dr. Tristram has not supplied a similar one on the Fauna. Ruins innumerable are scattered over the face of the country; dolmens and stone circles, Moabite towns, Roman temples, tanks, and roads, Christian churches, a Persian palace, and the later buildings of Saracens and Crusaders, are found in close proximity to each other, and offer an almost inexhaustible field for exploration and excavation. A systematic examination of Moab, such as, we understand, is about to be made by a well-equipped expedition sent by the American Palestine Exploration Fund, cannot fail to lead to discoveries not less important than the celebrated Moabite Stone; for it is highly improbable that Mesha was the only King of Moab who left a written record behind him. At Rabba, the old Ar, or Eabbath-Moab, "there are several huge grass-grown mounds, evidently the tombs of some important buildings, which might well repay excavation"; and Dr. Tristram mentions a rich field for exploration in El Hhurreh, one of the numerous Harraths, or volcanic regions, between Damascus and Mecca, described to him as "full of ruined cities, built of black stone."

We must now refer briefly to some of the results of Dr. Tristram's journey. M'Khaur, the ancient Machaerus, where, according to Josephus, John the Baptist was put to death, was closely examined, and the description of the citadel, with its two dungeons, one of which "must surely have been the prison-house of John the Baptist," will be read with interest by every one. Dr. Tristram is, however, in error in supposing that he was the "first Western traveller, since the Roman time," to explore it, as the Duc de Luynes visited the ruins in 1864, and they were discovered and identified by Seetzen in 1807.

The discovery of a name so like Zoar as Zi'ara still lingering on the mountain side near the northern end of the Dead Sea is extremely interesting, but we cannot accept the identification of the ruins to which they are attached with the Zoar of Lot. Few will now dispute the accuracy of the view first, we believe, advanced by Mr. George Grove in the 'Dictionary of the Bible,' that the cities of the "plain of Jordan" lay to the north of the Dead Sea; but even if Sodom were, as Dr. Tristram seems to suggest, east of Jordan, it would hardly have been possible for Lot to have reached a town 3,000 feet above the valley in the short interval between daylight and sunrise. There is no ground, as far as we are aware, for the general belief that Zoar was on the mountain side, indeed the inference to be drawn from the Bible narrative is rather the reverse. In Genesis xix. 15-30 we find the angel urging Lot to escape to the mountain, on which he petitions, "Oh, not so, my Lord: . . . I cannot escape to the mountain . . . this city is near to flee unto . . . let me escape thither," and the angel replies, "I will not overthrow this city . . . haste thee, escape thither." This certainly indicates that Zoar was to have been included in the destruction of the cities of the plain, and that it was either on the plain or at the very foot of the mountain; the descriptions of the view of Lot from the mountain east of Bethel, and of Moses from Pisgah, point in the same direction, and it is hard to see how Zoar could have been mentioned in the expression "the plain of the valley of Jericho . . . unto Zoar" (Deut. xxxiv. 3), if it were 3,000 feet above the plain. Possibly the name Zi'ara may have been transferred from ruins at the foot of the hill where we should feel most inclined to place Zoar. We can only allude to the recovery of the site of Ziza, one of the most important places in Roman Arabia, where an immense tank of solid masonry was found, connected with a water system similar in plan to the ancient works of irrigation in India and Ceylon, and must pass on to Dr. Tristram's most interesting discovery, the palace of Mashita. Dr. Tristram and Mr. Fergusson, in his valuable chapter on the palace, show good grounds for ascribing this great work to Chosroes, circ. 614-627 A.D.; and the latter has made a complete restoration of the external façade, a representation of which forms the frontispiece to the book. The palace was never finished, but some idea of the beauty of the completed portion may be gathered from the illustrations, and the following extract:—

"We were at first perfectly bewildered by the variety and magnificence of the architectural decorations. The richness of the arabesque carvings, and their perfect preservation, is not equalled even by those of the Alhambra, though in somewhat the same style. The whole consists of a large square quadrangle, facing due north and south, 170 yards in extent on each face; with round bastions at each angle, and five others, semicircular, between them, on the east, north, and west faces, all, like the wall, built of finely dressed, hard stone. . . . On the flat wall itself runs a large pattern, like a continued W, with a large rose boss between each angle. These stand cut boldly from the plane of the wall. Every inch of their surface, and all the interstices, are carved with fretted work, representing animals, fruit, and foliage, in endless variety. The birds and beasts are fully represented, and not, as in Arab sculpture, melting into fruit or flowers, but correctly drawn. There are upwards

of fifty animals, in all sorts of attitudes, but generally drinking together on opposite sides of the same vase. Lions, winged lions, buffaloes, gazelle, panthers, lynx, men; in one case a man with a basket of fruit, in another a man's head, with a dog below; peacocks, partridges, parrots, and other birds; more than fifty figures stand in line, with vases, on the west side of the gateway. All are enclosed in cornices and mouldings of conventional patterns, and the interstices filled in with very beautiful adaptations of leaves."

The least satisfactory portion of Dr. Tristram's work is that which relates to the geography of Moab, for the elucidation of which the grant of the British Association was specially made. We have, it is true, many charming descriptions of scenery, and interesting notices of the topographical features of certain localities; but, with the exception of a few new sites, little has been added to the map of Messrs. Palmer and Drake, although the Expedition was in the country nearly six weeks, and had ample opportunities for making astronomical observations and for mapping the country. A memoir by Mr. Johnson, "experienced as an astronomer, surveyor, and photographer," on the Geography of Moab, with tables of altitudes, latitudes, and longitudes, would have added much to the value of Dr. Tristram's book.

In conclusion, we must say a word in praise of the illustrations, which have been faithfully reproduced from the photographs of Messrs. Buxton and Johnson; and, whilst recommending the 'Land of Moab' to the attention of our readers, congratulate Dr. Tristram on the success which has attended his expedition. He has shown how easy it is, with proper precaution, to visit the country east of the Dead Sea, and we hope that it may not be long before some one is able to reap the rich harvest which still awaits future explorers in the ancient kingdom of Moab.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Innocent. By Mrs. Oliphant. 3 vols. (Low & Co.)

The Last of the Lythams. By R. W. Baddeley. 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

As the Fates would Have It. By G. Beresford Fitzgerald. (Samuel Tinsley.)

Culmshire Folk. By Ignotus. 3 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)

The Last of the Jerninghams. By A. E. N. Bewicke. 2 vols. (Skeat.)

Un Mariage Tragique. Par Ernest Daudet. (Paris, Charpentier & C^{ie}; London, Dulau & Co.)

MRS. OLIPHANT'S 'Innocent' is terribly inferior to her charming 'May,' which we reviewed a few weeks ago. An idiot for heroine; a wicked fool for hero, and some of the most disagreeable people that we ever met with, even in a novel, for their "set," make up Mrs. Oliphant's characters. The first two volumes are dull, and the third is a nasty piece of bad sensationalism. The half-developed heroine, a grown-up woman with the brains of a child of four years old, is tried for her life in the last volume, and the trial is one of the most unhealthy incidents that has ever been introduced into one of the works of a novelist of note.

'The Last of the Lythams' is a queer compound of melo-drama and farce. In spite

of the gross improbability of the plot and the characters, it is not altogether unamusing. The hero and heroine meet first in the west of Ireland, where the gentleman, an Irish baronet of lofty views, owns an ancient castle and a large tract of country, the natives of which it is his aim to civilize and improve. He is interrupted in his philanthropic purposes by the attachment which he forms for Vivia, the last of the Lythams, niece of an eccentric old squire of that name, whose property is situated on the borders of Wales, and in the neighbourhood of the market town of Drakenford, in or about which reside the other personages of the story. Mr. Lytham, a foolish old pedant, whose resemblance to the father of Dorothea, in 'Middlemarch,' is, we suspect, more than fortuitous, soon quarrels with Sir Everard Tylecote on the suggestive topic of Irish regeneration. Vivia, a model of dutiful allegiance to her exacting uncle, breaks with her lover, and returns to Lytham Grange. Her subsequent life in that eccentric neighbourhood, the danger she escapes in the attentions of an adventurer, who nearly succeeds in possessing himself of her hand and fortune, and her repeated misunderstandings and final reconciliation with Sir Everard, constitute the main thread of the subsequent narrative. So far there is little to distinguish her history from that of other maidens of romance, except that her lover is exceptionally sensitive, gloomy, jealous, and irascible. But her Drakenford neighbours, whose existence is in no way essential to the love-story, but of primary importance to the interest of the book, are of a very marked and unusual type. They are all stage monsters, of different sorts and sizes. We have one gentleman who always whistles or sings at table, and insults his bishop, at a dinner party, by singing, without the slightest malice, a ditty on a holy friar; another, a Volunteer Captain, who raves and curses in a billiard-room; a Yankee politician, who tries unsuccessfully in Parliament to make the "British lion wag his tail"; a match-making mother, with eleven daughters, who exercise all their lives the supposed privileges of Leap Year; her ne'er-do-well son, who has a turn for the stage, and speaks on all occasions in character; an agricultural J.P., who goes about with a guitar, and takes to his bed for fear of the eleven young ladies, and a subordinate crowd of comic actors in real life. Mr. Baddeley has been quite "regardless of expense" as to the numbers of his troupe of jokers, and has consequently succeeded, in one or two instances, in concocting a ludicrous situation. But, on the whole, his characters are overstrained and fatiguing, while one or two slips in accuracy are enough of themselves to destroy any sense of probability. The provision in Mr. Lytham senior's will, which is absolutely illegal, and the strange mistake of attributing a "Gælic accent" to a Lowland Scotchman, are only typical instances of the completely unreal character of the book.

Mr. Fitzgerald's "unpretending volume is dedicated with respectful and unfeigned admiration to those who, in these latter days, have reduced the worship of 'Self' to a system." It will be seen, therefore, that it claims to be a book "with a purpose"; and in the laudable effort to lash the vices of the age, incidentally gives the reader an elaborate view of them. The plot, therefore, is laid almost exclusively

in the broadest highways of vice, in which the reader is supposed to raise, at every step, the hands of reprobation. We are introduced in the first place to one of the victims of society, a poor girl who believes herself to be the illegitimate daughter of a Cheshire squire, whose costly tomb she visits stealthily in a country churchyard, while his *soi-disant* widow, Mrs. Burnham, and her daughter, are engaged in worship inside the parish church. Poor Bessie, herself, belongs to the London *demi-monde*, having deserted her husband, a struggling clerk in the neighbourhood of Burnham. The story is concerned thenceforward with the downward career of one of Jack Burnham's daughters, and the growing passion of Tom Tollemache, her husband, for the beauty and innocence of Mary, her unknown sister. In the end Bessie dies, the discovery of her mother's marriage having in the mean time reduced the reigning Burnhams to poverty and shame. Mrs. Burnham, however, has become the wife of a mercenary old man, who has sought her solely for her money, and who is duly disappointed; while Tollemache retires abroad, in order to console himself with the *panacea* of marriage with his deceased wife's sister. His case naturally evokes some strictures on the English statute-book, and our author exclaims with noble recklessness "what are human laws, however good, that they should interfere with the life-long happiness of two individuals?" Or, indeed, of one? though the sentiment is a little unpractical for legislative purposes. There are several fairly sketched characters in the book, and with the exception of some doggerel verses, and to our minds a certain obliquity of moral vision which is censurable in a philosopher, the style and the spirit are not below the average of fiction.

Perhaps the worst point about 'Culmshire Folk' is its awkward title. Fancy names for English towns and districts are rarely happy; but we have seldom had experience of so cacophonous a mouthful as appears at the head of Ignotus's painstaking novel. Loamshire, Chalkshire, Blankshire, and the rest, are dreary enough, but the hideous hybrid Culmshire surpasses all in ugliness. This may seem a frivolous objection, the "bush" which indicates good wine being proverbially immaterial; but, as far as it goes, the choice of a title is some indication of what we may expect from the author, and in the present case there is a suggestion, which a further perusal of the book confirms, of that deficiency in humour which, till Lever died, was not characteristic, as it so often is now, of Irish authors. And herein, we fancy, lies the cause from which this book, with many merits, has just fallen short of excellence. It contains a good deal of thoughtful writing, at least one remarkable study of character, and the well selected quotations which head the chapters indicate, at all events, a considerable acquaintance with literature. Yet on the whole it is dull: it is excessively elaborated, scenery and characters detailed with the accuracy of a Dutch painting, the stage filled almost to crowding, with a multiplicity of actors; but it is almost destitute either of humour or pathos, the correlative attributes, without which fiction is less lively than fact. We are told, of course, that Lady Culmshire's fondness for her *protégé*, Sidney Bateman, arises from an ancient tenderness which that world-worn, but womanly peeress,

entertained for his gallant father; yet comparatively little is made of it, we think less of it than of the Lady's adroitness, tact, and perfect command of the weapons of social warfare; while the avowedly comic characters, Tim the Irishman, Wiggles the actor, and that coarse caricature, Mephibosheth Mac-Gosh, are flat, stale, and unprofitable to the last degree. Indeed, of the last character and his feminine admirers, Aunt Jin, Mrs. Seidlitz, and the rest, it is difficult to speak in terms of common patience. Their repulsiveness is untrue to nature, while so stale a device, so cheap an appeal to thoughtless dislike of a certain type of religionists, is beneath the dignity of an author who is capable of better things: for "Ignotus," we venture to predict, will be known more favourably than by his present work. He has quite sufficient literary skill, quite enough insight of a shrewd hard sort into character, to turn out good work without would-be facetious excrescences. His women are particularly distinct in their outlines, though none is drawn carefully but the Lady, the wire-puller of all the other puppets. The men, with the exception perhaps of the General, are slighter and less interesting. Sidney Bateman, whose family pride drives him to treat with insult and unkindness the plebeian uncle who has educated him, and to give up for his selfish whim the engagement on which the happiness of his *fiancée*, the sister of his dearest friend, depends—Cecil Stanley, the foolish boy who runs away from a kind father and mother, because he quarrels with his aunt—are sadly imbecile, even for the heroes of a novel, and the plot of which they are the main supporters is of the crudest kind. But, on the whole, the character of Lady Culmshire, kindly, worldly, tender, with a soft heart beneath the polished breastplate she bears against society, is a pleasant one. To it the rest of the story is subordinate, and by it no doubt the author would be judged. But as he has cast his monograph in the form of a three-volume novel, his success must be weighed accordingly.

There is some power in Miss Bewicke's book. We are not in general fond of religious novels, holding that, as in the case of most mixtures, two good things are thereby spoilt, even if the ingredients be in themselves wholesome. Nor is the autobiographical form always the most convenient for story-telling, its advantages being generally counterbalanced by the temptation to prolixity. But though not entirely free from the drawbacks inseparable from the class of writing she has adopted, Miss Bewicke's tale will not, we think, be found uninteresting. A Dean's daughter, who falls in love with a Jew, is, at any rate, a sufficiently black swan to claim the merit of rarity. And the Jew is a paragon, and the Dean's daughter considerable among female dignitaries of the Church. Gwynnydd Jerningham has been brought up in the retirement of a cathedral close, by a fond and learned father, whose literary companion she has become. Her only intimates in childhood besides her parents are her younger sister, a happy, thoughtless damsel, and her cousin Marmaduke, or Duke, the last of the Jerninghams, who have arranged to prolong their ancient race by the intermarriage of Gwynnydd with her kinsman. Though the cousins are suffered to be perpetually together, and an

ardent cousinly affection grows up between them, the family project has not been imparted to Gwynnydd, when she and her sister go to town for their first season to be introduced into the fashionable world by their aunt, Lady Basset. The secret of her intended future is only revealed to her when the too fascinating Levison has won her heart and promise. Then comes to poor Gwynnydd's inexperienced heart the terrible struggle between apparently conflicting duties. She acts in the highest good faith, but makes two irretrievable mistakes. She breaks off her engagement with Levison in deference to her love for her father, whom she dare not shock by revealing her attachment to the Jew; and after the lapse of some time consents to marry Marmaduke, because she believes that Levison's conversion to Christianity is only prevented by his suspicion of his own disinterestedness. Love for Adrian, pity for Marmaduke, the shame of marriage without love, the pain of motives misinterpreted by those whom she wishes to benefit, the final failure of all the hopes which buoyed her in self-sacrifice, are all distinctly and painfully revealed in Gwynnydd's story of her life. The reader's sympathies are enlisted in her favour, and his attention turned from the really weak points of the plot, the want of backbone and manhood about the dreamy Jerningham, the want of kindly appreciation of the heroine on the part of the disappointed lover. Yet even the stern Adrian, when the catastrophe has come, can feel for the unhappy girl who has wrecked her life for him, while Marmaduke's memory, by a stroke of happy skill in human nature, is elevated to the niche in Gwynnydd's affection, which the living object had never the power to attain. On the whole, this is rather an able novel, though its melancholy subject will deter most people who depend on the circulating library.

It is impossible for us to praise the very wild sensation novel that comes from the pen of M. Daudet. The main incident in the book is the shooting, at a battue, by the sporting heroine, of the gentleman to whom against her will she has been betrothed. The remainder of the plot is of similar quality to this sample, and the work has almost every bad point that a novel can possess.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE'S *Palmetto Leaves* (Boston, Osgood & Co.) is a record of a winter spent in Florida. Mrs. Stowe discusses the value to invalids of the country as a winter residence; and describes the general state of the country as it is since the conclusion of the war. The book is pleasant and lively, full of picturesque details and narratives of delightful picnics, scrambles among the woods, and sails upon the river. The descriptions of climate and scenery are graphic and vivid. Of course the worth of the work as an authority upon climate is the concern of the American rather than the English public, who are not likely to go to try what the Florida swamps can do for them. Mrs. Stowe inculcates the necessity of great care and prudence in dealing with this locality, which seems to possess fascinations that fairly rouse her to enthusiasm. The condition of the negroes under the new state of things is touched upon with good sense, and with a geniality which makes the reader almost as hopeful as Mrs. Stowe herself. She gives the judgment of a practical farmer accustomed to hire labourers in the North and in

the South. As a result of five years' experiment on this subject he says, "that the negro labourer, *carefully looked after*, is as good as any that can be hired in the North." She also remarks: "The question whether, on the whole, the negroes are valuable members of society and increasing the material wealth of the State, is best answered by the returns of the Freedman's Saving and Trust Company, an institution under the patronage of Government. The Report of this company for the year 1872 shows that the negroes in the different southern states have, during this year, deposited with this company the sum of 31,260,499 dollars." The deposits have gradually risen year by year since 1867, "showing that, as a body, the southern labourers are a thrifty, industrious, and advancing set."

THE merits of Prof. Teuffel's *History of Roman Literature* are so well known, that there is no need to dwell on them. An English translation of the work, by Dr. Wagner, has just been issued by Messrs. Bell & Sons. Dr. Wagner is a respectable philologist, but we cannot help regretting that the work of translation was not undertaken by some English scholar; for Dr. Wagner, like too many of his countrymen, does not possess the gift of style; and although, for a foreigner, he has a creditable knowledge of our language, his English is always clumsy, and sometimes obscure. However, the German original is not particularly elegant, and Dr. Wagner's shortcomings do not diminish the value of the work as a book of reference.

WE have before us the Reports of the Committees of the Free Libraries of Birmingham and Leicester. Both Libraries continue prosperous. The list given, in the Birmingham report, of the books most in request is interesting, for the taste of the readers is sometimes curious. That 'Ivanhoe' and 'Kenilworth' should be popular we can understand; but that the 'Black Dwarf,' one of the feeblest of Scott's novels, should be so much read, surprises us.

The Sportsman's, Tourist's, and General Time-Tables and Guide, edited by Mr. J. W. Lyall, seems well arranged, although the inevitable deer on the title-page may prejudice some people against it. The map is better than those usually found in time-tables.

M. CARL ANDERSEN, the accomplished curator of the collection at Rosenborg, who, by the way, was lately in London, has published at Copenhagen, a guide to the treasures under his charge. The book is excellent in its way.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Beecher's (H. W.) *Royal Truths*, new edit. cr. Svo. 3/6 cl. Chay's (Rev. J. G.) *Virgin Mary*, cr. Svo. 6/ cl. Estcourt's *Questions of Anglican Ordinations Discussed*, 14/ cl. Evans's (M.) *Story of Our Father's Love Told to Children*, 3/6 cl. Fry's (H.) *United Christians*, cr. Svo. 1/6 cl. Garside's (Rev. C. B.) *Prophet of Carmel*, cr. Svo. 5/ cl. Munro's (F.) *Lectures on Certain Portions of the Earlier Old Testament History*, Vol. 1, 12mo. 3/6 cl. Murell's (A.) *Lights and Landmarks for the Christian*, 3/6 cl. Parker's (T.) *Discourses upon Matters Pertaining to Religion*, new edit. cr. Svo. 2/ cl. Pearson's (J.) *Exposition of the Creed*, by J. Nichols, new edit. Svo. 5/ cl. Raines's (Rev. Father) *Homeward*, 2nd edit. 12mo. 3/6 cl. Rule and Anderson's *Biblical Monuments*, roy. Svo. 60/ cl. Southwell's (R.) *Hundred Meditations on the Love of God*, 6/ cl. Taylor's (J.) *Prayers for a Household*, roy. 16mo. 2/6 cl.

Philosophy.

Bleekly's *Colloquy on the Utilitarian Theory of Morals*, 7/6 cl. Murphy's (J. G.) *The Human Mind*, cr. Svo. 5/ cl.

Law.

Heron's (D. C.) *Principles of Jurisprudence*, Svo. 2/6 cl. Hunter's (S. J.) *Elementary View of the Proceedings in a Suit in Equity*, 6th edit. post Svo. 12/ cl.

Williams's (Sir E.) *Treatise on the Law of Executors*, 7th edit. 2 vols. royal Svo. 76/ cl.

Fine Art.

Bird's (S.) *History of Ancient Pottery*, new edit. royal Svo. 42/ cl. Lanigan's (S. M.) *Theory of the Fine Arts*, cr. Svo. 4/ cl. Moody's (F. W.) *Lectures and Lessons on Art*, Svo. 10/ cl. National Memorial to H. R. H. Prince Consort, folio, 12. 12s.

Music.

Boosey's Royal Edition, 'Songs of England,' ed. by J. L. Hatton, royal Svo. 2/6 cl.

Poetry.

Byron's *Life and Works*, new edit. 2 vols. royal Svo. 15/ cl. Downton's (H.) *Hymns and Verses*, cr. Svo. 3/6 cl.

King's *Stratagem, or the Pearl of Poland*, a Tragedy, cr. Svo. 2/6 cl. Quidita, the Serf, by Author of 'Friends in Council,' 32mo. 5/ cl. Wilton's (Rev. R.) *Wood Notes and Church Bells* 12mo. 3/6 cl.

History.

Challice's (Mrs.) *Illustrous Women of France*, post Svo. 10/6 cl. Coleridge (S.), *Memor and Letters of*, ed. by her Daughter, 2 vols. cr. Svo. 24/ cl.

De Renty (Baron), *Life of*, 12mo. 6/ cl.

Lawrence (Sir H.), *Life of*, by Edwards and Merivale, 3rd ed. 12/ cl.

Longman's (W.) *History of the Three Cathedrals*, cr. Svo. 21/ cl.

Mill (J. S.), *Notices of his Life and Work*, Svo. 1/ swd.

Newman's (J. H.) *Essays, Critical and Historical*, 3rd edit. 2 vols. cr. Svo. 12/ cl.

Newman's (J. H.) *Historical Sketches*, 3rd series, cr. Svo. 6/ cl.

Pike's (L. O.) *History of Crime in England*, Vol. 1, Svo. 18/ cl.

Traherne's (Mrs. A.) *Romantic Annals of a Naval Family*, 10/6 cl.

Geography.

Blackburn's (H.) *Harz Mountains*, Svo. 12/ cl.

Merridew's *Guide to Boulogne-sur-Mer*, 3rd edit. 1/ swd.

Month at Gastein, or *Footfalls in the Tyrol*, cr. Svo. 6/ cl.

Pike's (N.) *Sub-Tropical Rambles in the Land of the Apan-*

apteryx, Svo. 18/ cl.

Practical Continental Guide, new edit. 12mo. 5/ swd.

Read's (W.) *African Sketch-Book*, 2 vols. cr. Svo. 24/ cl.

Reade's (J. C.) *Gateway to the Polynesia*, Svo. 21/ cl.

Philology.

Aristophanes' 'Peace,' revised Text, with English Notes by P. A. Paley, 12mo. 4/ cl.

Buchheim's (Dr. A.) *French Reader*, 3rd edit. cr. Svo. 1/6 cl.

Mast's (G. C.) *French Practice*, Part 1, 12mo. 1/ cl.

Nasmith's (D.) *French*, Forty Progressive Exercises, 1/6 cl. Ip.

Nasmith's (D.) *Practical Linguist*, 2 parts, 4to. 5/ cl.

Ralston's (W. R.) *Russian Folk Tales*, Svo. 12/ cl.

Symonds's (J. A.) *Studies of the Greek Poets*, cr. Svo. 10/6 cl.

Science.

Dunlop's (D.) *Philosophy of the Bath*, 3rd edit. cr. Svo.

Ellis's (E.) *Practical Manual of the Diseases of Children*, 2nd edit. cr. Svo. 7/ cl.

Fayrer's *Clinical and Pathological Observations in India*, 20/ cl.

Latham (P. W.) *On Nervous and Sick Headache*, cr. Svo. 3/ cl.

Pennefather's (J. B.) *Deafness and Diseases of the Ear*, 5/ cl.

Proctor's *Light Science for Leisure Hours*, 2nd series, 7/6 cl.

Saeltzer's (A.) *Treatise on Acoustics*, cr. Svo. 5/ cl.

Sheppard's (E.) *Lectures on Madness*, Svo. 6/ cl.

Smith's (J. E.) *Diagnosis of Aural Disease*, 2nd edit. 2/6

Twisleton's (Hon. E.) *The Tongue not Essential to Speech*, 6/ cl.

Willis's (B. S.) *Select Ferns*, 2nd edit. cr. Svo. 5/ cl.

General Literature.

Adie's (H.) *Penruddocke*, 3 vols. cr. Svo. 31/6 cl.

Barry's (W.) *Sporting Sketches and Holiday Rambles*, 2/6 bds.

Bateman's (J. C.) *Iron of Amorica*, Vol. 5, cr. Svo. 6/ cl.

Constable's (H. S.) *Doctors, Vaccination, and Utilitarianism*, 5/ cl.

Cornhill Magazine, Vol. 27, Svo. 7/6 cl.

Education of Man, by a Member of the New Zealand Bar, 10/6

Five Hundred Abbreviations made Intelligible, 12mo. 1/ bds.

Freytag's (G.) *Our Forefathers*, a Novel, 2 vols. cr. Svo. 21/ cl.

Gladstone's (Mrs. E.) *Uncle Max*, roy. 18mo. 1/ cl.

Granville's (J. M.) *While the Boy Waits*, cr. Svo. 5/ cl.

Historical Tales, &c., of the Early Khalifahs, translated by Mrs. G. Clark, cr. Svo. 7/ cl.

Jefferies's (R.) *Respecting Editing and Authorship*, 12mo. 1/ bds.

Johnson's *Guide to Candidates for the Excise*, new edit. 1/6 cl.

Major's (H.) *Pupil Teacher's Year-Book*, Books 1, 2, 3, 2/ each.

Mayo's (W. S.) *Never Again*, cr. Svo. 2/ bds.

Newman's (J. H.) *Callista*, a Sketch of the Third Century, new edit. or. Svo. 5/ cl.

Pierse's (C. G. B.) *Riddles, Epitaphs, and Bon-Mots*, 21/ bds.

Savin and Brodrick's *Falconry in the British Isles*, 2nd edit. imp. Svo. 42/ cl.

Three Venerable Ladies of England on Church Politics, 1/ swd.

True Reformer (A.) 3 vols. cr. Svo. 25/ cl.

Wilson's (H. S.) *Studies and Romances*, cr. Svo. 7/6 cl.

BABYLONIAN TABLETS.

21, Charles Street, Berkeley Square, June 11, 1873.

AMONG some clay contract tablets discovered at Babylon, which have just reached me from Baghdad, I find one dated in the first year of Evil Merodach, and have thus, at length, ascertained the true orthography and meaning of that name. The first element which has been assimilated by the critics (see Gesenius, 'Lex,' p. 21) with the Hebrew *בָּבֶל*, "foolish," is, in reality, the Assyrian *amil*, "a man," the name signifying "Merodach's man" (or servant?). We have numerous instances in the inscriptions of the substitution of the Hebrew *ב* for the Assyrian *m*, as in the names of the months Sivan and Marchesvan, for *Siman* and *Arakh-samana* (eighth month); in fact, the articulations of *m* and *b* seem to have been hardly distinguished; and there is no doubt, therefore, of the identity of the Assyrian *amil* with the Masoretic reading of *evil*.

The other tablets which I have received are dated in the reigns of Nabonidus and Darius, but do not appear to contain anything remarkable.

H. RAWLINSON.

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MILITARY CENTRE AT OXFORD.

Oxford, June 9, 1873.

A RECENT debate in the House of Commons has made the world acquainted with the somewhat surprising fact that the present Government, though containing a large number of Oxford men amongst its more prominent members, and having a former

student of Christ Church for its head, is, nevertheless, intending to establish a military centre in the immediate neighbourhood of the University. This is a subject which the *Athenæum*, being a journal of English and Foreign Literature, of Science, and of the Fine Arts, may, I trust, be asked to have discussed in its columns, and in this hope I write.

The incongruity or incompatibility of the two ideals, the ideal of the military and the ideal of the academic life, cannot be put forward better than in Bacon's often-quoted words ('Advancement of Learning,' Book Second) as to the ideal of the latter. "The works," he says, "which concern the seats and places of learning are four, . . . all tending to quietness and privateness of life, and discharge of cares and troubles: much like the stations which Virgil prescribeth for the hiving of bees:—

Principio sedes apibus statioque petenda,
Quo neque sit ventis aditus," &c.

It is certainly a little wonderful that the present Premier, to the formation of whose character academic influences have so largely contributed, and whose writings have been strikingly marked by their earnest depreciation of any undue glorification of the "pious pastime" of war, should have thus deserted his former standpoint, and left his old university in the lurch, as ungraciously as she, upon a former occasion, left him. Ensign Northerton never had the opportunity of reading a certain review of Tennyson's 'Maud,' commonly ascribed to Mr. Gladstone; we know, however, on the authority of Fielding, his feelings as to the poet whom he called "Homo," and we commend the passage we refer to to the respectful consideration of the author of 'Homer and the Homeric Age.'

Leaving now Mr. Gladstone, Ensign Northerton, and their respective ideals, let us come to Mr. Cardwell and hard facts. There are no harder facts than those of discipline and the destruction of it; and there is nothing more true, practically, than that two different standards and systems of discipline cannot exist in efficiency side by side with each other. It is commonly said that under the new Army Regulations the new military centres will be under a strict system of "discipline." But "discipline" means one thing when we are speaking of a military centre, or indeed of military matters at all, and something quite different when we are speaking of a University. So long as a soldier, officer or private, is smart on parade, efficient on drill and field days, it is but an impertinence in his superior officer to inquire into any of the matters, the consideration of which, within the precincts of a University, makes it a centre of education as opposed to a mere centre of learning and teaching. The word "discipline" has one sound, but two senses. To express what will be the effect upon a number of young men of having a totally alien standard of conduct laid alongside of that to which I suppose everybody is agreed it is desirable that students in a University should be brought to conform, at least, outwardly, I will borrow and slightly alter certain eloquent words used by Mr. Bagehot for another purpose. They will run thus:—"The living spectacle of an admitted unbelief will destroy the binding authority of academic custom, and snap the cords of academic restraint." What that "admitted unbelief" in "discipline" of the kind now practically in force in English Universities naturally results in, is best to be learnt from a study in the scientific method of the natural history of a garrison town and its adjacent villages. Mr. Cardwell has answered this by saying, firstly, that his Oxford military centre is only to be a small one, and, secondly, that his soldiers will be all well conducted and steady men. This answer implies, firstly, that Mr. Cardwell will remain at the War-Office always, and unchangeably, and, secondly, that human nature will be changed from what it always has been since soldiers have been soldiers to suit his convenience and ours.

It is not a little mortifying to read in a Report "On the Sites for a Brigade Dépôt in the neighbourhood of Oxford," drawn up by Prince Edward

of Saxe-Weimar, and recently (May 20) presented to the House of Commons, that there would be "great local opposition to a barrack's being built anywhere upon two roads," the Banbury and Woodstock Roads, in the neighbourhood of Oxford. Between, and on either sides of these two roads, "large and handsome villas" have been erected, and the occupiers and owners of them, like the persons similarly threatened at Nottingham, and reasonably enough from their own point of view, object to the planting of a military dépôt in the midst of them. This remonstrance, therefore, their "great local opposition," is to weigh more than the opposition of the entire University. Their local interests, which, unhappily for us, are limited and defined by the two parallel roads specified, are to count for more than the acknowledged interests of one of the national Universities. It is needless to make any comment upon this.

GEORGE ROLLESTON, Prof. of Anat., Oxford.

PARSONS' 'PURGATORY.'

Indico legno lucido e sereno.—*Purg.* vii. 74.

It may not be generally known to the readers of the *Athenæum* that Mr. Parsons, the American Dantophilist, who some time ago published a version of the 'Inferno' (see *Athenæum*, No. 2104, Feb. 22, 1868), is now engaged in printing a version of the 'Purgatorio,' a canto of which appears from time to time in the monthly periodical, *The Catholic World*, published in New York. The April number of this magazine contains his version of the seventh canto, in which the seventy-fourth verse, which has met with such varied fortunes at the hands of commentators and editors, is rendered as if it should be read—

Indico legno, lucido sereno,

and translated—

India's rich wood, heaven's lucid blue serene.

Mr. Parsons rests his reasons for rejecting "indico" for *indaco* (indigo), a sort of *bête-noire* to many an expounder of Dante, chiefly on the remarks of Mr. Ruskin ('Modern Painters,' iii. 228), and refers the introduction of sky-blue to the use which the poet makes of *sereno* for the sky in 'Purg.' v. 38, and xxix. 53. From the earliest days of commentators down to the present, this verse has received every sort of punctuation of which it capable; it has been read and printed,

Indico, legno lucido, e sereno :

Indico legno lucido, e sereno :

Indico legno, lucido sereno :

Indico legno lucido e sereno :

the last manner of reading the verse being that which is now almost universally adopted. Among the earliest expounders of Dante, Jacopo della Lana and Francesco da Buti held with the first reading, which Buti fully explains: *Indico* is the blue colour, *indigo*, *legno lucido* is "la quercia fradica che, quando è bagnata, riluce di notte come fanno molti vermi," and *sereno* is the sky.

Landino, while he explained *Indico* as "colore azzurro," gave the hint that *legno lucido* meant ebony—"l'ebano, il quale è nero, e molto lucente"; *sereno* was still the sky. "Others," he adds, "read *Indico legno*, perchè in India sono mirabili alberi, e dopo dicono *lucido sereno*, dinotando la purità dell'aere." By "others" he probably meant the 'Ottimo' and Benvenuto da Imola. Vellutello, though he adhered to "indigo," omitted the sky, and remarked that by *legno lucido e sereno*, Dante meant ebony, "il quale è negrissimo e lucente." Daniello rejected "indigo," and by *Indico legno* understood "azzurro ultramarino," a gross mistake, as Volpi pointed out, for this colour is not obtained from any plant, but from the valuable stone known as lapis-lazuli; *sereno* remained as the sky. In the edition of 'Le Terze Rime di Dante,' by Aldus, in 1502, this verse was printed—

Indico legno lucido, e sereno :

a punctuation followed by Venturi and others, and which is found in the very careful text of Dionisi, Parma, 1796. It had received also the approval of the "Crusca," and was thus printed in the edition of the Academy, 1593.

The Padre Lombardi (Roma, 1791) removed the comma after *lucido*, and printed the verse,

Indico legno lucido e sereno,

but his paraphrase was not a happy one; he thought *sereno* not applicable to ebony, and rendered the passage as "Indiano colorato legno il più rilucente e gaio." Learned as the Reverend Padre was, he knew nothing about colour, nor how effective a little dark blue or clear black is in setting off the combination of gay and lively pigments. The punctuation of Lombardi was followed by Biagioli, Viviani, Bianchi, Fraticelli, Tommasé, Witte, and others. But in the edition of Firenze, 1847, with the name of Emiliani-Giudici as the editor, the old reading of Buti crops up,

Indico, legno lucido, e sereno;

and along with it we have Buti's exposition, with the editor's remark, "tutti togliendo l'*indico* per aggiunto del legno, intendono ebony, il cui colore non mi pare che molto s'accordi colla descrizione presente." The late Commendatore, Paolo-Emiliani-Giudici, who died somewhat suddenly last year at his English home near Hastings, had been Professor of *Aesthetica* in the Academy of the Fine Arts at Florence, and in early days acquired some reputation in Sicily, his native country, as an artist and writer on art; he therefore should have known the value of a clear, pure, lustrous black, sparingly and judiciously used, in aiding the most gorgeous effect which gold and silver and gay colours are capable of producing. Raphael knew the value of black when brought into proximity with the primitive tints, and to some of his most brilliant cabinet pictures *a tavola* put a narrow border of this colour.

In the edition of the 'Divina Commedia' by Paolo Costa, Firenze, 1830, we find the reading recently adopted by Mr. Parsons,—

Indico legno, lucido sereno,

which the editor says is an emendation of the "chiarissimo Biondi, who has defended it with much learned reasoning."

For the honour of Dante, however, and for the credit of those commentators whose acquirements rendered them more capable of appreciating his own, it must be mentioned that his meaning was not mistaken by all. The author or compiler of the 'Ottimo,' whoever he may have been, and more especially Benvenuto da Imola in his commentary, have redeemed the character of the early expounders as a class; the former read "Indico legno e lucido," though of *sereno* he says nothing, leaving the reader to infer that he understood the sky; the latter explained *Indico legno* as "albero indiano a diversi colori," which, when polished, presents to the eye a *lucido sereno*, the most resembling *al puro aer sereno*."

Marco Polo, in the thirteenth century, described the cultivation of the indigo-plant (*Indigo tinctoria*), and the mode of preparing the dye. Dante knew that it was not a wood, nor obtained from wood, and he was well up in Pliny and in the words of Virgil,—

Sola India nigrum

Fert ebenum.—*Georg.* I. ii. 116-7.

Pliny further states that the wood of the best sort is black and shining, and pleasing to the eye without any adventitious aid from art—"materie nigri splendoris, ac vel sine arte protinus jucundi" (i. xii. 8). It is to the Cav. Monti ('Proposta,' &c., Milano, 1821, vol. iii. part 1, "Legno") that we are indebted for the full verification of Dante's meaning. An abridgment of his learned demonstration will be found in the Minerva edition of the 'Divina Commedia,' Padova, 1822, and in Ciardetti's edition of Firenze, 1830, but what refers to the Padre Lombardi is there omitted. Lombardi, observes the Cav. Monti, was prevented from recognizing ebony by the epithet *sereno*; he thought *lucido* was applicable to that wood, but not *sereno*, and many others have thought so also. But, asks Monti, what does the word *sereno* mean? "Properly it signifies chiaro ed asciutto, from the Latin *seresco*, Ital. *Seccarsi*, *Asciugarsi*. Now what can be più chiaro ed asciutto than the colour of ebony? And in what respect is the epithet unsuitable to black? What can be darker than the night, yet

when free from clouds we call it *sereno*?" The Cavalier quotes various passages from Virgil, Persius, Martial, and Pliny to show how *sereno*, both in a positive as well as figurative sense, was used for *claro*, clear. And it is in this sense of *claro* that Dante here applies it—

Indico legno lucido e sereno.

Lucido e sereno, as here used, are not "vague adjectives," as Mr. Parsons intimates, but, like all other qualifying epithets used by the Poet, the most correct and appropriate that could be found to express his meaning.

H. C. BARLOW.

PALÆOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHS.

British Museum.

THERE is a branch of antiquarian study, very important and interesting in itself, but which has not many followers, and has not kept pace with the progress made in other directions,—I mean that of palæography. How many men are there in all England, or in all Europe, who can determine the age and country of an undated ancient manuscript by reference to established principles of judgment? Questions of importance in early literature and the history of art may be dependent on the accuracy of decisions, which can only rest on the particular skill and experience of individuals; for, as yet, there is no sufficient body of recognized criteria to support them. Palæographical works there are of high character, and some of them the most costly of publications; but they yield few positive conclusions which can be universally acquiesced in. The chief cause of this imperfect success is, that the criteria offered for general acceptance are drawn from too limited a field of observation, and supported on too scanty a body of examples. The science of palæography depends on the comparison of characters of writing and styles of art used in different times and in different countries; and for this purpose abundant materials, in the form of ample and accurate fac-similes, are indispensable. Up to the present time, the best works have failed in respect to both number and accuracy of plates, simply because the only process at their command—that of hand-copying—is very costly, and necessarily imperfect and untrue. We have now the remedy for this difficulty in well-tried processes of permanent photographic printing. Apply these to the reproduction of ancient writings and manuscript ornamentation, well selected for the purpose, and the result will be obtained of a basis for a trustworthy system established on proofs. It requires the action of a society to collect these materials, and I am willing to receive the names of gentlemen who may desire to co-operate in its formation.

EDWARD A. BOND.

THE HAMATH STONES.

Essex, Surrey, June 11, 1873.

THE reproduction in England during the last week of correct plaster of Paris fac-similes of these stones has greatly enlarged our knowledge of them. In particular, the number of the different inscriptions is now certain. The points of commencement are now certain. The difference between upward and downward is now certain. Last, but not least, the reason why one of them, contrary to universal experience, should be engraved from the bottom of the stone upwards, can now be explained in a very simple way.

The number of stones actually found was four. By dividing the west side of one of them into two, and by casting separately each of these two portions, and also the north side of the same stone, we get the six casts now exhibited by the Palestine Exploration Fund at the Egyptian Hall.

The west side of this stone is a long parallelogram, with a semi-ellipse above. The semi-ellipse contains an inscription to itself, with, no doubt, the name of the king intentionally erased. The two upper long lines in the parallelogram contain one inscription. The next two lines contain another, but space was found wanting for eight letters at the end. These eight letters were engraved round the corner on the north side, viz., at the bottom of the north side, thus supplying an obvious reason

why the engraver, having once begun work at the bottom of the stone, should go on to work upwards.

Thus upon this large stone there are four inscriptions. The three other small stones supply three more, thus making seven in all.

Now, in five out of the seven, the first sign has been recognizable solely from the casts, a head, and man's arm pointing to the nose. I have not yet had time to examine the ethnological type of the features or head-dress. From a cursory glance they seem to me Cyprian. The reason why I say eight letters were worked round the corner is, that in the sixth inscription round the corner, on the north side, the man's head appears again as the ninth letter. Had this bottom line on the north side begun with the man's head, there would have been no reason for the unique fact of the engraver working upwards.

I have but time to say further that the ibex head is clearly recognizable in the new casts, and that the key to the decipherment must at present be sought for in the three other small stones, the inscriptions on which are identical except for about an inch in each, which, I doubt not, contains the king's names.

I had omitted to say that under one of the heads appears a prostrate enemy, in a most uncomfortable and undignified attitude.

DUNBAR ISIDORE HEATH.

UNSUPECTED CORRUPTIONS OF SHAKSPEARE'S TEXT.

'CYMBELINE,' like several of the plays first printed in the 1623 folio, begins with a typographical blunder which hitherto has baffled all conjecture:—

You do not meet a man but Frowns.
Our blouds no more obey the Heavens
Then our Courtiers:
Still seeme, as do's the kings.

But as this crux has been the subject of controversy for a hundred years, I have no intention of discussing it here.

A few lines below there appears to be a slight misprint, which has hitherto escaped notice:

—But not a courtier,
Although they wear their faces to the bent
Of the Kings looks, hath a heart that is not
Glad at the thing they scowl at.

Here the first "at" is doubtless a mistaken repetition of its neighbour. Read—

Glad of the thing they scowl at.

Strictly speaking, we should now say,—

Glad of the thing he scowl at.

In Shakespeare's day, however, such grammatical anomalies were permissible, and in constant use.

The same scene exhibits a ridiculous instance of mispunctuation in every modern edition:—

He that hath mis'd the princess is a thing
Too bad for bad report: and he that hath her,
I mean that married her,—alack, good man!—
And therefore banish'd, is a creature such
As, to seek through the regions of the earth
For one his like, there would be something failing
In him that should compare.

—where Posthumus appears to be commiserated for having married the Princess Imogen! We ought, of course, to read,—

I mean that married her,—alack, good man,
And therefore banish'd!—

Act i. sc. 2—

Sir, as I told you always, her beauty and her brain go not together. She's a good sign, but I have seen small reflection of her wit.

The comment of the next speaker—

She shines not upon fools, lest the reflection should hurt her, Indicates, one would think, that the author wrote,

She's a good sun,—

Thus Proteus says of Silvia,—

At first I did adore a twinkling star,
But now I worship a celestial sun.
The Two Gentlemen of Verona, act ii. sc. 6.

And, Longaville, of Margaret, writes,—

Then thou, fair sun, which on my earth dost shine,
Exhal'st this vapour-vow.
Love's Labour's Lost, act iv. sc. 3.

And Romeo exclaims,—

It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.
Arise, fair sun.
Romeo and Juliet, act i. sc. 2.

Act i. sc. 4.—The exquisite beauty of this little

scene appears to have been marred by two or three ugly misprints:—

No, madam, for so long
As he could make me with his eye or ear
Distinguish him from others, he did keep
The deck, with glove or hat or handkerchief,
Still waving, as the fits and starts of 's mind
Could best express how slow his soul sail'd on,
How swift his ship.

"His eye or ear" is admitted to be an *erratum*, but no convincing emendation of it has been yet suggested. That of Warburton, "this eye or ear," which has been generally accepted, is very poor. I should prefer reading—

—for so long
As he could make me with either eye or ear, &c.

In Shakespearean prosody, *either*, *neither*, *whether*, *mother*, *father*, *brother*, *hither*, *thither*, &c., are almost invariably contracted into monosyllables when occurring at the end of lines; sometimes, also, when they occur elsewhere. For example, we find in the present play—

To come alone, either he so undertaking,
Or they so suffering.

And—

Tis still a dream, or else such stuff as madmen
Tongue and brain not, either both or nothing.

Either, with the second syllable so elided or softened, would easily be misheard for "this" or "his."

Ibid.—

Thou should'st have made him,
As little as a crow or less, ere left
To after-eye him.

A syllable has evidently been omitted after "made him."

We ought, probably, to read—
Thou should'st have made him seem
As little, &c.

Ibid.—

I would have broke mine eye-strings; crack'd them but
To look upon him.

No one familiar with Shakespeare's style can believe him guilty of this bathos. He might have written—

I would have crack'd mine eye-strings; broke them, but, &c.; though even this would be tame for him. It is far more likely that what he really did write was—
I would have crack'd mine eye-strings, broke their balls
To look upon him; till, &c.

I am doubtful whether the expression of Pisanio, act iii. sc. 4.—

I'll wake min' eyeballs blind first,

adds anything to the probability of this suggestion, but it may be worth notice.

Act i. sc. 5—

I have seen him in Britain; he was then of a crescent note, expected to prove so worthy as since he hath been allowed the name of; but I could then have look'd on him without the help of admiration, though the catalogue of his endowments had been tabled by his side, and I to peruse him by items.

What befitting sense can be tortured out of "the help of admiration"? Does not the context plainly show that "help" is a corruption? I feel certain we ought to read, "but I could then have look'd on him without the *yelp* of admiration," or "the *whoop* of admiration." Either word tallies with the sense, which, obviously, is—"I know how distinguished this Briton is accounted, but if I had studied every item of his accomplishments, I could still look on him without a vulgar shout of wonderment." Compare—

Treason and murder ever kept together,
As two yoke-devils, sworn to either's purpose,
Working so grossly in a natural course,
That admiration did not whoop at them.
King Henry V., act ii. sc. 2.

Compare, too—

O wonderful,—wonderful! and most-wonderful-wonderful!
and yet-again-wonderful! and, after that, out of all whooping!

As You Like It, act iii. sc. 2.

Act i. sc. 6.—In tempting Pisanio to forsake the desperate fortunes of his master, Posthumus, and follow those of her son, Prince Cloten, the Queen in the old text is made to say—

Think what a chance thou changest on; but think, &c., which has been variously but not successfully altered. The allusion, I apprehend, is to hunting. In the language of our old books on field sports, when a hound hunts backward the way the chase has come, he hunts counter; when he hunts any other chase than that he first undertook, he hunts change. We should read—

Think what a *chase* thou changest on, &c.

or— Think what a *chase* thou changest; oh, but think!

Compare—

Hold, Warwick, seek thee out some other *chase*.
Second Part of Henry VI., act v. sc. 2.

and—

Nay, Warwick, single out some other *chase*.
Third Part of Henry VI., act ii. sc. 4.

and—

I'll yet follow
The wounded *chance* of Antony, though my reason
Sits in the wind against me.

Antony and Cleopatra, act iii. sc. 10.

Where Dr. Johnson suggested, with reason, that "chance" was a misprint of *chase*.

Act i. sc. 7.—

— should I (damn'd then)
Slaver with lips as common as the stairs
That mount the Capitol; join gripes with hands
Made hard with hourly falsehood (falsehood as
With labour).

No satisfying explanation of—

—hands
Made hard with hourly falsehood,

has yet been offered. "Falsehood" in this place implies *robbery*, *dishonesty*, as in Sonnet xlviii. —

How careful was I when I took my way,

Each trifle under trust bars to thrust;

That to my use it might unused stay;

From hands of falsehood, in sure wards of trust!

and hence the "as" in "as with labour," may be suspected to have been borrowed from the neighbouring lines; the genuine lection being—

Made hard with hourly falsehood (falsehood, not
With labour).

Act iii. sc. 3.—

These boys know little they are sons to th' king;
Nor Cymbeline dreams [or dream?] that they're alive.
They think they are mine; and though train'd up thus meanly
In th' cave whereof they bow, their thoughts do hit
The roofs of palaces.

Such is the accepted punctuation, though indisputably wrong. Read:—

They think they are mine; and, though train'd up thus meanly,
I th' cave wherein they bow their thoughts do hit
The roofs of palaces.

Act iii. sc. 4.—

Thou told'st me, when we came from horse, the place
Was near at hand.—Ne'er long'd my mother so
To see me first, as I have now:—Pisanio! Man!
Where is Posthumus?

Something is obviously deficient here. I would read and arrange, but that the alteration might be thought too violent even in this most corruptly printed play,—

— Ne'er long'd my mother so

To see me first, as I too see this haven.

Now, Pisanio, Man! Where's Posthumus?

See *ante*,—"this same blessed Milford": and note that "haven" here and in other places must be pronounced *hane*; as raven, *metri gratia*, must be often sounded *rane*.

Act iv. sc. 2.—

— So please you, leave me;
Stick to your journal course. The breach of custom
Is breach of all.

The flow and measure both instruct us we should read,—

Stick to your journal course. The breach of custom is
The breach of all.

Ibid.—

I cannot find those runagates; that villain

Hath mock'd me.

Read, I think:—

I cannot find those runagates; that villain-slave, &c.

or—

Hath mock'd me. that villain, sure,

Ibid.—

Gul. — cut off one Cloten's head,—

So to the queen, after his own report,—
Who call'd me traitor, mountaineer; and swore,
With his own single hand he'd take us in,
Displace our heads, where (thank the gods!) they grow,
And set them on Lud's town.

Bet. We are all undone.

I have little doubt the original manuscript had "traitor-mountaineer," and "Lud's-town gates." See the threats of Cloten, just before.

Act iv. sc. 2.—

O, melancholy!
Who ever yet could sound thy bottom? find
The coze, to show what coazt thy sluggish care,
Might easliest harbour in?

The old text has "sluggish care," which was judiciously changed to *care* by Sympon. This is not the only disfigurement the passage has suffered; "find the ooze," should possibly be "fine the ooze."

To sound the bottom and clear the ooze, or floating scum, may be needful operations in seeking harbourage on a strange coast, but what can be meant by "find the ooze"? The passage, however, is altogether ambiguous, and even after these changes it sadly wants explication.

Act iv. sc. 2.—

Here's a few flowers, but about midnight, more.
The herbs that have on them cold dew o' th' night,
Are strewings fit'st for graves.—Upon their faces.
You were as flowers, now wither'd; even so
These herblets shall, which we upon you strew.

As Cloten had been decapitated, and his head sent down the stream by Guiderius, the words "upon their faces" have been imputed to Shakespeare as a lapse of thought. I rather attribute the fault in them to the compositors, and believe those inveterate offenders have here spoiled a very beautiful apostrophe to the supposed dead Fidele and the deceased Cloten:—

— Upon th' earth's face

You were as flowers; now wither'd; even so
These herblets shall, which we upon you strew,

For the earth's face," compare,—

For me the ransom of my bold attempt
Shall be this cold corpse on the earth's cold face,
King Richard III., act v. sc. 3.

Again,—

And, ere my knee rise from the earth's cold face,
I throw my hands, mine eyes, my heart to thee,
Third Part of King Henry VI., act ii. sc. 3.

The same expression is found also in Dr. Donne's Funeral Elegy on Mrs. Boulstred, where the poet, addressing Death, says:—

Th' earth's face is but thy table; there are sett
Plante, cattell, men, dishes for Death to eat.

Ibid.—

The dream's here still; even when I wake, it is
Without me, as within me: not imagin'd, felt.

Another of the countless instances where Shakespeare's meaning has been enfeebled or destroyed by erroneous punctuation. Point,—

The dream's here still, even when I wake! It is
Without me as within me; not imagin'd, felt!

Read,—

— Lack, good youth
Thou mov'st no less with thy complaining, than
Thy master in bleeding: say his name, good friend.

Read,—

— thy master in his bleeding. — than

Act v. sc. 1.—

— I am brought hither
Among the Italian gentry, and to fight
Against my lady's kingdom. 'Tis enough
That, Britain, I have kill'd thy mistress; peace!
I'll give no wound to thee.

So, flatly, reads every modern text. Can I be mistaken in believing Shakespeare wrote,—

— 'Tis enough
That, Britain, I have kill'd thy mistress-piece!
I'll give no wound to thee.

The received lection sounds absolutely senseless, while, considering the exalted rank and the august endowments of Imogen, the expression of which it appears to be a sophistication is peculiarly appropriate. Compare,—a notable instance of its use,—the following passage from Lord Herbert's 'History of Henry VIII.' (ed. 1649):—

"One of the liberties which our king took at his spare time was to love. For as all recommendable parts concurred in his Person, and they, againe, were exalted in his high dignity and valour, so it must seeme lesse strange, if amid the many faire Ladies, which liv'd in his Court, He both gave and receiv'd temptation. Among whom, because Mistresse Elizabeth Blunt, daughter to Sir John Blunt, knight, was thought, for her rare Ornaments of Nature and education, to be the beauty and Mistresse-piece of her time, that entire affection past betwixt them, as at last she bore him a sonne."

Act v. sc. 5.—

Cym. Heard you all this, her women?
Lady. We did, so please your highness.
Cym. Were not in fault, for she was beautiful;
Mine ears, that heard her flattery; nor my heart,
That thought her like her seeming; it had been vicious
To have mistrusted her.

The collocation and the metre in this pathetically tender lamentation seem to demand—

Mine eyes that look'd on her,

or— Mine eyes that saw her face.

Mine eyes that saw,
Mine ears that heard,
My heart that thought.

Is this too visionary? At any rate, the limp in the first line must be cured.

Ibid.—

—Never master had
A page so kind, so dutieous-diligent:
So tender over his occasions, true,
So feal, so nurse-like.

Read—

So tender over his occasions true.

—that is, his true occasions.

Ibid.—

—Ay, so thou dost,
Italian fiend!—Ay me, most credulous fool,
Egregious murderer, thief, anything
That's due to all the villains past, in being
To come. Oh give me cord, or knife, or poison.

Absurdly wrong. Read, unquestionably,—

— Give me,—most credulous fool,
Egregious murderer, thief,—anything
That's due to all the villains past, in being or
To come! Oh give me, &c.

—that is,—"Give me any punishment that's due," &c. The old spelling, "Aye me," in part perhaps, led to the error.

H. STAUNTON.

'FROM THE THAMES TO THE TAMAR.'

Great Malvern, June 10, 1873.

In your review of the above work you have referred to my mention of a Lord Portman as having prevented Monmouth's being killed at the moment of his capture. The error may appear to some greater than it is, and I wish to be allowed to state that it is only in the title, and not in the person. The name should have been Sir William Portman; he was a principal Secretary of State, and from his nephew and heir Lord Portman is descended.

A. G. L'ESTRANGE.

THE PERKINS LIBRARY.

The Perkins Library, which was sold last week, realized 26,000*l.*, the largest amount ever fetched by the same number of books. There were 865 lots in the Catalogue, which gives an average of rather more than 30*l.* per lot. Till this sale, we believe no single book, except the celebrated Valdarfer Boccaccio, ever brought a thousand pounds; but on this occasion that sum has been exceeded, for two printed books, namely, the Gutenberg Bible, on vellum, which sold for 3,400*l.*, and the same book on paper, which brought the enormous price, in comparison, of 2,690*l.* Usually, however, a vellum copy of a rare book sells for from four to ten times as much as the same book on paper, and frequently the disproportion is much greater than that; and of this fact there were many examples in the Perkins sale. The very great increase in the value of some books during the last fifty years, the fall in others, and the stationary price of another class, are worthy of remark. Lot 36, *Biblia Latina*, with the binding of Diane de Poitiers, which cost Mr. Perkins a few shillings, was bought by a French collector for 80*l.*—Lot 157, *King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table*, printed by W. Cope, 1557, is the only perfect copy known; and though Mr. Perkins gave no more than 20*l.* for it at Dent's sale, in 1825, it was not dear at the 120*l.* it produced now. Nor can the Latin Bible of 1462 (Lot 177), printed on vellum, be considered very dear at 780*l.*, being certainly one of the finest copies extant, and a most important monument of the typographical art. It had cost, at Mr. Dent's sale, no more than 173. 5*s.*—Lot 178, *Bible Historiée*, was a truly beautiful manuscript, the miniatures being of the highest finish; it sold in 1826 for about 100*l.*, but now finds a buyer at 490*l.*—Lot 186, *Biblia Latina*, printed at Venice by Nicolas Jenson, 1476, was one of the typographical gems of the sale, a charming example of vellum printing. The same book on paper can be easily got for about 10*l.*, but this vellum copy sold for 290*l.*—a curious contrast to the Gutenberg Bibles! The book was acquired by Mr. Perkins, at Sir Mark Sykes's sale, for 71. 8*s.*—The Coverdale Bible was formerly Mr. Dent's, and at his sale cost 89. 5*s.*, but it is nearly a quarter of a century since any copy approaching completeness has occurred, and it is not, therefore, surprising that it now brought

400*l.*, which is, however, the highest price at which any copy has yet sold by auction.—Lot 205, Brant's *Shyp of Folys*, translated by Alexander Barclay, and printed by R. Pynson, was another example of the difference fifty years has made in prices. This, again, was bought at Mr. Dent's sale, where it realized 30*l.*, and now 130*l.* was not thought too much for it.—Lot 366, *Heures de Verard*, 1488, was a truly beautiful volume, and it has returned to the land of its birth at the price of 225*l.*, which shows, however, that we made a good fight to keep it in this country.—The *Christinedi Pisan, Les Cent Histoires de Troye* (Lot 374), cost Mr. Perkins only 73*l.* 15*s.*, though a previous possessor had paid 126*l.* for it. It was now bought for a French bookseller for 650*l.*, so we suppose that it has not yet reached its highest price.—Lot 390, *The Lamentable Estate and Distressed Case of Sir W. Dick*, which was described by Mr. Evans, when he sold Dent's library, fifty years since, as "one of the rarest works relating to the time of the English Commonwealth," seemed to show that our grandfathers took more interest in Commonwealth history than we do, for it sold then for 26*l.* 5*s.*, and now for only 22*l.*—Lot 406, *Evangelistarum*, said to be of the tenth century, was such a MS. as is rarely to be seen for sale, and produced accordingly the respectable sum of 565*l.*—Lot 534, *Hore ad Usum Romanum*, was a MS. of great beauty, in the style of the famous Bedford Missal. Speculation was rife as to what this might bring, but no one seemed able to give a closer opinion than that it would sell for from 250*l.* to 1,200*l.* The smaller price proved to be nearest the mark, for the hammer fell at 407*l.* 10*s.*, but then, though it wanted two leaves in the middle, it was a good two inches taller than this.—Lot 617, *Koran*, was another instance of the fact that it is not *all* books that have increased in value, for it sold for 70*l.*, or 2*l.* 18*s.* less than Mr. Perkins gave for it fifty years since. But the most remarkable example of this uncertainty was Lot 380, *Concordantiae Bibliorum*, which was bought from Messrs. Longman in 1825 for 31*l.* 10*s.*, and now no one will give more than 1*l.* 16*s.*! One of the greatest books in the sale, however, was a notable example of the higher value set upon works of art now than in the days of George the Fourth.—Lot 634, *Lydgate's Siege of Troy*, with seventy painted pages, was then knocked down to Mr. Perkins for 99*l.* 15*s.*; now it will be celebrated as one of the few books, either in MS. or in print, which have sold for more than a thousand pounds. Sharp, though short, was the contest which ran it up to 1,320*l.*, and a cheer broke forth when the hammer reluctantly descended to this handsome bidding.—Lot 637, *Les Œuvres diverses de Jean de Meun, contenant le Roman de la Rose*, brought 690*l.* It was certainly one of the finest manuscripts ever sold of this famous book, and it is to be wondered that our neighbours allowed it to remain in this country, even at the price it brought. The missals printed on vellum formed quite a feature of the sale, and four of these noble volumes sold, in the aggregate, for no less than 890*l.*—Lot 640, *Missale Ecclesiae Augustensis*, 180*l.*—Lot 641, *Missale Mozarabicum*, and to this was added, Lot 207, *Breviarium Mozarabicum*, fine copies, from the library of Girardot de Précord, 295*l.*—Lot 642, *Missale Romanum*, printed at Rome in 1496, was certainly one of the finest examples of vellum printing ever seen, and found admirers enough to cause it to sell for 375*l.*, thus exceeding considerably the famous *Vallisumbrosa Missal*, which called forth such raptures from Dr. Dibdin: it was here (Lot 647) sold for 240*l.*—A very remarkable MS. was Lot 738, an *Apocryphal Life of Christ*, in Latin verse, said to be of English execution, and ornamented with a great number of curious outline drawings, described as being of the early part of the fourteenth century, but more probably be-

longing to the latter half of that century. This had cost the late owner only 18*l.* 18*s.*, but 400*l.* was now not thought by any means too much for it.—Lot 837, Mr. W. Shakespeare's *Comedies, Tragedies, and Histories*, 1623, the famous first folio, the same copy which brought only 110*l.* 5*s.* at Mr. Dent's sale, was now run up to 585*l.*, which is the highest price it has ever fetched, excepting the Daniel copy, which, in 1864, sold for 716*l.*

Literary Gossip.

WE understand that Mr. Clements Markham is about to publish a work on the subject of Arctic Exploration, entitled 'The Threshold of the Unknown Region,' in which he will relate the events connected with all the principal voyages which have touched the boundary of the region as yet unexplored around the North Pole. He will also discuss the best route by which the unvisited area may be examined, and describe the important scientific results to be derived from Arctic Exploration.

A PUBLICATION, interesting to English readers, is shortly to appear under the auspices of the Historical Society of St. Petersburg, a society whose patron is our expected visitor, the Cesarevitch. For two years competent persons have been employed, by permission of our Government, in copying the diplomatic correspondence of English ministers in Russia and at home, for the whole of the reign of Catherine the Second, from 1762 to 1796. The only portion excluded from the new publication is that which has already appeared in Lord Malmesbury's *Diaries and Correspondence*. The rest will be new to all of our readers, except those who have examined Raumer's 'Frederick the Second and his Times,' where extracts from some of the despatches are given. The period covered by the correspondence is a deeply interesting portion of our annals. It was the time of the two Pitts, of Fox, Sheridan, Burke, and Francis, men who took part in debates connected with Russia, and to whom allusion is not unfrequently made in these letters. We cannot but hope that an English publisher will produce an edition of the work for English readers.

LORD LYNTON is said to be writing a life of his father; but, on the other hand, the public will not, we fear, for a long time see the remainder of another life, that of Lord Palmerston.—Mr. Cowper-Temple being, we hear, of opinion, that the time for its completion has not yet come.

MESSRS. TRÜBNER & CO. advertise a new edition of Marsden's 'Numismata Orientalia.' This splendid work, the illustrative plates of which embrace a very large number of Asiatic dynasties, and are marked by exceptional fidelity in the reproduction of the examples of coins selected by Marsden, was originally published by the old Directors of the Honourable East India Company, at immense cost, —in fact, as was ever the case with those merchant Kings of India, when they undertook any scientific work,—"regardless of expense." We believe—at least, we have been so informed by the highest living authority on the antiquities of India—that the engraving of the fifty-seven copper-plates of this work cost 3,000*l.*, and no one will deny that their exceptional and abiding merit made them well worth the money. But when the old Company was abolished, the new masters of the India House carted these copper-plates

off to the Military stores in the Belvidere Road, Lambeth, and there they were sold as condemned stores, and were bought by Messrs. Trübner & Co. at the price of old copper. In this strange way it has come to pass, that the Messrs. Trübner & Co. are to-day the fortunate publishers of the second edition of Marsden's great and truly imperial work. We congratulate them—but we cannot congratulate the Secretary of State for India in Council.

MR. S. C. HALL has written a temperance poem, which will be published under the title of 'The Trial of Sir Jasper.' The work will be illustrated by Messrs. Poole, Elmore, Faed, Dobson, E. M. Ward, John Tenniel, Gustave Doré, George Cruikshank, and other well-known artists.

THE proprietors of the Provincial Press seem to have taken a fancy to sensation novels. A combination of eight newspapers has just arranged for the publication simultaneously, of a tale by the author of 'Lady Audley's Secret.'

A SERIES of Japanese stories, chiefly humorous, illustrated by Japanese artists, is being prepared by Mr. Edward Greey, author of 'The Queen's Sailors,' &c.

ON Thursday, the 26th of June, at the last meeting of the Society of Antiquaries for the session, the Dean of Westminster, V.P., will read a paper 'On the Tombs of Richard the Second.' The paper will be illustrated by drawings by George Scharf, Esq.

MISS BRADDON'S forthcoming novel, 'Strangers and Pilgrims,' will appear in July.

MR. M. J. WHITTY, the late proprietor of the *Liverpool Daily Post* and the *Liverpool Journal*, died on Tuesday last. He was in his seventy-ninth year. Mr. Whitty was actively occupied in the management of the *Post* and *Journal* until very recently.

'THE History of the Civil War in Wales and the Marches' is the title of a new work, shortly to be published, by Mr. J. Roland Phillips.

MR. W. CHRISTIE-MILLER, in his privately printed "Alphabetical List of Black-Letter Ballads and Broadsides, known as the Heber Collection," now in his father's possession, in the celebrated library at Britwell House, Bucks, notices that one ballad, called "A Mournefull Dittie, entituled Elizabeth's losse, together with a welcome for King James," contains the following stanza:—

You Poets all, brave Shakspeare,
Johnson, Greene,
Bestow your time to write
For Englands Queenie.
Lament, Lament, &c.

The street-ballad writer, at any rate, knew who was the foremost poet of his time. The Heber Collection ranges from 1553 to 1601, and contains some very early and rare pieces. We hope its owner may reprint it.

M. LITTRÉ was received last week. M. Champagny replied to his speech, and commented on the eminent philologist's philosophical opinions in a manner hardly consistent with the traditions of the Academy.

MR. JOSEPH HATTON will commence a novelette, 'Village Tyrants,' in the *Belgravia Magazine*, for July, to which Mrs. Compton Reade will also contribute a complete story, 'Swift as a Flash.'

THE London Committee for conducting the

Cambridge Local Examinations will hold their annual Distribution of Prizes on Monday, June 23, at 4 P.M., in the Theatre of the London University. The Rev. Canon Kingsley will preside.

We hear that Prof. Roth, one of the editors of the Sanskrit Dictionary published at St. Petersburg, and for many years Professor of Sanskrit at Tübingen, is likely to be appointed to the chair of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology in the German University at Strasbourg, vacated by Prof. Max Müller. Prof. Max Müller has returned the honorarium paid him for his course of lectures last summer, 2,000 thalers, and the University has accepted it as a foundation for a triennial prize for an Essay on Vedic Literature.

SCIENCE

THE GREENWICH OBSERVATORY.

The Annual Visitation of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, took place on Saturday, June 7, and the Astronomer-Royal has issued his customary Report to the Board. The work of the Observatory has been carried on with the same assiduity and regularity as heretofore, but a more than usual amount of cloudy weather, particularly during last autumn and winter, has reduced the number of observations below the average. Moreover, the altazimuth instrument, to the use of which (owing to its supplying observations of the moon on many nights when clouds cover her during her meridian passage, and still more near her conjunctions when daylight interferes with meridian observation) the recent improvements in the accuracy of the Lunar Tables are in a great measure due, was under repair for about three months at the end of last year. Owing to these causes, the meridian observations of the moon have only reached the exceptionally small number of 102, the altazimuth of 129, during the year ending May 11. The large planets have been, as usual, constantly observed on the meridian; the small, fortnight by fortnight, in turn with the Observatory of Paris, a division of labour which has now been in use for some years, and which the great and increasing number of those bodies has made convenient. A considerable number of stars and phenomena have also been observed, but, in consequence of the unfavourable weather, fewer than usual. We notice the conclusion of an important experiment, by the Astronomer-Royal, to test the alleged alteration in the amount of aberration undergone by rays of light which have passed through a great thickness of object-glass. He has caused a number of observations of γ Draconis (the same star which first led Bradley to the discovery of aberration) to be made through three feet of water at those times of the year when the effect of aberration is greatest. No such change in its value was thus found. We may remark that the German astronomer (Prof. Klinkerfues), who asserted that he did find something of the kind, does not appear to have made more than a single observation, which is always insufficient to found a theory upon.

At the close of his Report, Sir George Airy devotes a few words to his arrangements for observing the Transit of Venus next year. To his five original stations (Alexandria, Honolulu, Rodriguez, Christchurch in New Zealand, and Kerguelen's Land), he has added a station in Northern India, principally for photographic records, to be combined with those in Kerguelen's Land. The southern hemisphere appears to be tolerably well provided for, and the Astronomer-Royal remarks that he relied upon the effective assistance of the Russians in the northern, — a reliance we now know to have been well placed, as Russian parties are to occupy numerous stations in southern Siberia and on the Chinese coasts. French, German, American, and Dutch parties are also to take part in the good

work; and there is every reason to hope that the Transit will be far more effectively observed than that of 1769. On that occasion, but one party, that of Capt. Cook, observed in the southern hemisphere, and the difficulty of interpreting their observations, which were also somewhat discordant, was the principal cause of the erroneous measure of the sun's distance which was so long accepted. Next year many parties of various nations will reinforce each other, and this will practically annihilate any chance of serious error. As very strong doubts have been expressed in certain quarters on the possibility of the weather admitting of an observation in the important station of Kerguelen's Land, we may remark that Prof. Neumayer (probably the highest authority on the meteorology of those regions), by selecting that locality for himself, sufficiently indicates his opinion on that point. This more than counteracts any judgment founded on the experience of Capt. Ross, who was there during the least favourable part of the year. But December, it will be recollected, corresponds to our June. The Astronomer-Royal contemplates the possibility of establishing also some branch-stations dependent on Honolulu. For all his five principal stations he has already provided transit-instruments, altazimuths, equatorials, detached telescopes, and clocks; he has also two photoheliographs, and expects three more in the course of the summer.

THE PROTECTION OF WILD BIRDS.

PROF. NEWTON has evidently missed the drift of my communication.

1. The common sense of the people is evidently shocked at the idea that they have each been criminal in shooting or taking the nests of wild birds, which few have not been guilty of during some part of their lives.

2. Keepers of gardens and other agriculturists, being prevented by law from shooting wild birds, and the boys from taking their nests, the boys are employed to destroy the eggs of different birds (including those of starlings) in the nests. The nests being thus defiled by the eggs, are, I am told, forsaken by the parent bird, and as they have not time to prepare another nest, they frequently drop their eggs in the fields, woods, and other places.

I see a writer in the *Hour* observes that if persons "are debarred from killing birds, they will take to poisoning them, and the destruction will be ten times greater than it is now." He ought to have added, if the birds are poisoned, with strichnine or other poisons of the kind, the birds or other animals that eat their dead bodies will be also poisoned, and the destruction will thus go on *ad infinitum*. I know there is an Act against poisoning birds or using poisoned grain, but I do not recollect hearing of a single conviction under that Act.

I do not believe that more birds have been shot or otherwise destroyed, or their eggs taken, of late years than formerly, and yet we have more wild birds in this country than on any part of the Continent that I have visited; and why cannot sentimental legislators leave well alone? I fear that their interference will have just the contrary effect to what they and I desire, which is, that our woods, hedges, and fields may be enlivened and embellished by the presence of wild birds.

JOHN EDWARD GRAY.

SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—June 9.—Sir R. Alcock, K.C.B., V.P., in the chair.—The following Fellows were elected: Sir W. Bagge, Bart., Rev. J. A. Gould, Dr. E. H. Seccomb, Capt. C. Sharp, Messrs. J. Dodd, W. S. Elmslie, J. Hunt, and A. J. R. Stewart.—The paper read was "On Venetian Voyages to the North in the Fourteenth Century, and on the Lost Greenland Colony," by Mr. R. H. Major. According to the author, all previous writers on the subject of the ancient colony of the Northmen in Greenland had been prevented from arriving at accurate conclusions regarding its site by a false interpretation of two documents; one a

narrative by Antonio Zeno, a Venetian voyager of the fourteenth century, and the other a chorography of the old Greenland colony, with sailing directions for reaching it from Iceland, by Ivar Bardsen. Zeno's important narrative had been unjustly discredited, through being associated with an erroneously compiled map by Nicolo Zeno, a descendant of his, in 1558. By a happy interpretation of the Italian rendering of Northern names on this map, Mr. Major was able to identify, for the first time, all the chief places. On the other hand, with regard to Ivar Bardsen, whose sailing directions had been curiously misinterpreted by Capt. Graah, who was sent by the King of Denmark, in 1828-30, for the purpose of solving the question, Mr. Major showed how a rational reading of those directions pointed unerringly to the site of the old colonies, west of Cape Farewell. The establishment of the authenticity of Antonio Zeno's narrative has the further result of confirming the credibility of all the information it contains regarding the discoveries in Continental America made by the Northmen before the time of Columbus.

ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—June 6.—O. Morgan, Esq., M.P., in the chair.—The Chairman read an Account of Four Watches of the Seventeenth Century, which he exhibited, and which illustrated improvements made in watches by Dr. Hooke, an English mathematician, East, Markwick, and Tompion.—

Mr. Butt read "Notes on some Original Documents selected from the Collection at Loseley Hall, Surrey." The documents commented upon were sent for exhibition by the owner, Mr. J. More Molyneux. The most important were two letters of the Privy Council to the Justices of Surrey, very shortly after the death of Edward the Sixth, in reference to the flight of the Princess Mary from Hunsdon, and condemning her supposed title to the throne. Mr. Nichols bore testimony to the interest of the MSS. exhibited.—Mr. J. H. Parker, C.B., gave a discourse "On the Architecture of the Eleventh Century," in which he vindicated the positions he had taken up in a Memoir on the Church of St. Mary, Guildford, in the *Journal of the Institute*, which had been criticized in the *Saturday Review*.—Mr. J. J. Rogers sent for exhibition a bronze mirror, two glass beads, and some bronze rings of the Anglo-Saxon period, which had been found in a grave in the parish of St. Keverne, Cornwall.—General Lefroy, Governor of Bermuda, sent a rubbing of a large brass dish, and a photograph of work in wax on panel, which had been recovered from the wreck of a vessel going from Leghorn to America, in which the collection of an antiquary had been shipped.—Miss Farington brought four drawings of painted glass, now at Warden, which are said to have been taken from Lathom House when it was despoiled by the Parliament. In them were some heraldic combinations, not quite intelligible; also a key, with good floriated handle, belonging to a seventeenth-century farmhouse in the parish of Leyland.—The Chairman also exhibited two mediaeval rings and some articles of jewelry; and Mr. Parker showed several plans and sketches of architectural subjects in illustration of his discourse.—Mr. Nightingale sent a photograph of an early arch lately found in the nave of Britford Church, near Salisbury. It was formed of thin Roman bricks, with the sides ornamented with stone, carved in foliated scrolls and interlaced work, on which were remains of colour.—It was announced that a special excursion would be made to Berkhamstead in the early part of July, when Mr. Clark and Mr. Parker will give discourses upon the Castle and Church, as at Guildford last year.

ZOOLOGICAL.—June 3.—The Viscount Walden, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's collection during the month of May, amongst which were particularly noticed an example of the new Chinese Water Deer (*Hydropotes inermis*).—The following objects were exhibited: an egg of the Spotted Bower Bird (*Chlamydotoda maculata*), and a photograph of the egg of Flinder's Cuckoo (*Eudynamys Flindersi*),

sent by Dr. G. Bennett,—a series of photographs of various novelties lately added to the Australian Museum, Sydney, sent by Mr. G. Krefft, amongst which was the figure of a supposed new species of Chelodina from the Burnett River, Queensland,—the skin of an adult *Casuarinus bicarunculatus*, which had died in the Society's Gardens, April 1, 1873,—a series of skins and skulls of the new Muntjac from Ningpo, China, lately described by Mr. Swinhoe as *Cervulus Sclateri*.—Sir V. Brooke exhibited some skins and horns of the Andean Deer (*Cervus antiensis*), from the same locality as *Xenelaphus leucotis*, Gray, which was considered to be an abnormal form of the same species.—A letter was read from Dr. G. Bennett, referring to the supposed existence of a species of Tree Kangaroo (*Dendrolagus*) in Northern Queensland, some such animal being apparently well known to the blacks of Cardwell.—The Viscount Walden exhibited a series of skins of *Spilornis Elgini* and of other members of the genus, and made remarks on their distribution.—Memoirs were read: by the Viscount Walden, 'On the Birds of the Philippine Archipelago,' founded mainly on the recent collections of Dr. A. B. Meyer, but containing a complete account of all the known species of Philippine birds, and remarks on their geographical range; the total number of known Philippine species was estimated at 215, but a large number of the islands remained unexplored,—by Sir Victor Brooke, Bart., 'On the Antelopes of the genus *Gazella*, of which twenty species, or "persistent modifications," as the author preferred to call them, were recognizable; Sir V. Brooke entered at full length into the questions connected with the present geographical distribution of the group, and and its supposed descent from pliocene and miocene forms,—by Mr. A. H. Garrod, 'On the Pterylosis and on Some Points in the Anatomy of *Guichardi*' (*Steatornis caripensis*). Mr. Garrod showed that this singular bird must be constituted a family *per se*, related in some respects to the Caprimulgidae and their allied forms, and in other respects to the Owls (Strigidae).

CHEMICAL.—*June 5.*—Dr. Odling, President, in the chair.—Six communications were read, the first being 'On the Dioxides of Calcium and Strontium,' by Sir J. Conroy, Bart., in which the author gave the method of preparation and properties of these substances.—Mr. T. Wells described a new form of ozone generator, which gives abundance of ozone, and has the advantage of being easily constructed, and is not liable to be broken.—The other papers, which contained but little of general interest, were entitled: 'On the Behaviour of Acetamide with Sodium Alcohol,' by Mr. W. N. Hartley,—'On Iodine Monochloride,' by Mr. J. B. Hannay,—'On Triferrous Phosphide,' by Dr. R. Schenk,—and 'On Sulphur Bromide,' by Mr. J. B. Hannay.

MICROSCOPICAL.—*June 4.*—C. Brooke, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Secretary read a paper, by Mr. F. Kitton, descriptive of some varieties of Aulacodiscus and other diatoms, collected in Peru, by Capt. Perry, of Liverpool. The paper was illustrated by drawings and by specimens exhibited in the room.—A paper was also read, by Mr. J. W. Stephenson, 'On the Appearances of the Inner and Outer Layers of Coscinodiscus when examined in Bisulphide of Carbon and in Air,' in which the author pointed out the different effects obtained by mounting the diatoms in media of different refrangibility, and showed the value of such comparisons in determining the nature of the markings, as well as the general structure. The subject was illustrated by a number of drawings, by Mr. C. Stewart, and by specimens exhibited under the microscope; and a discussion followed the reading of the paper.—The meetings of the Society were adjourned until October.

PHILOLOGICAL.—*June 6.*—A. J. Ellis, Esq., President, in the chair.—Prince L. Lucien Bonaparte gave a description of his 'Maps of the Geographical Distribution of the Dialects, Sub-dialects, and Varieties of the Basque Language,' the result of his own personal inquiries on the spot in the

years 1856-57-66-67-69. There are four Spanish and three French provinces called Basque, and although Basque is not spoken over the whole of them, it is not spoken out of them, except in two villages on their borders in France, and in some parts of Mexico, Monte Video and La Plata, by American-born children of Basque parents. There are 660,000 Spanish, and 140,000 French Basques. The majority of those who speak Basque understand more or less of Spanish in Spain, or French in France. There exists a Basque book, printed at Pamplona in 1621 in the dialect of that town, where no Basque is now heard. It is longer since it was spoken at Vitoria, and there is only a tradition of its having been used at Bayonne. Basque has only lately ceased to be spoken in Alava, and the High Navarrese *partidos* of Tudela, Tafalla, and Estella. The four literary dialects are the Guipuscoan, Biscayan, Labourdin, and Souletin; the other four spoken dialects, North and South High Navarrese, and West and East Low Navarrese, have scarcely ever been written, and consequently afford more genuine materials for the philologist. The dialects are distinguished in various ways, in pronunciation, in grammar, and in vocabulary, and the extremes are mutually unintelligible. The *h* is not pronounced in Spanish, but appears in French Basque. Spanish *j* is heard in Guipuscoan; in Biscayan it is intermediate to *dy* and *gy*, and passes almost in English *j*; in Labourdin it is not sibilant; in Soule it becomes almost French *j*; and in Roncal and other places it is *sh*. The *s* has a peculiar palatalized sound throughout. French *u* is heard especially in Soule, and in some varieties there is a sound like the long Swedish *u*. Both the Italian *u* and French *u* sounds in Soule are occasionally nasalized. The grammatical differences can scarcely be indicated in an analysis. There are differences of suffixes and in the verbal tenses. Thus, *eman* being the root of the verb to *give*, "I have given it," is expressed by adding *det* in Guipuscoan, *dot* in Biscayan, *dut* in Labourdin, and *dit* in Souletin; and "he has given it to me," by adding *dit* in *G*, *deust* in *E*, *daut* in *L*, and *deit* in *S*. In the East Low Navarrese dialect the allocutive form of the verb is the only form used in simple assertions, so that no person can make an observation without implying the sex or age or rank of some imaginary person addressed. Allocutive forms occur in all the dialects, and are always used in addressing people, even when they relate to the first or third person. In the vocabulary common notions are often expressed by totally different words in the different dialects. Thus, "sun" is generally *eguzki* or *iguzki*, but is *ekhi* in Soule. "Moon" is generally *illargi*=dead light, in Soule *arizagi*=keeper of light, and in Roncal *goiko*=of high. *Jaungoiko*=lord of the high, is the name of God; can this be a contraction for *Jaungoikoko*, lord of moon, according to Strabo's report of the lunar rites of the old Iberians? or did that report arise from this name of the moon? In Guipuscoan *atorra* is a woman's shift exclusively, but in Labourdin the same word is a man's shirt exclusively. *Beatz-a* is "finger" in *G* and a "toe" in *B*, where *ats* is a "finger," which means the "itch" in *G*. The Souletin is the only dialect which distinguishes "had" and "been." There are fifty names for the butterfly, one of which means "soul of a donkey." The analogies of Basque to other languages do not suffice to class it with any, but to distinguish it from all. Basque has some few analogies with Finnish, but at least twenty points of distinction. The Prince concluded with reading out the Parable of the Sower in the four literary dialects.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Asiatic, 3.
— Victoria Institute, 8.—'Prehistoric Traditions and Customs in Connection with Sun and Serpent Worship,' Mr. J. S. Phain.
— U.S. Army Institution, 8.—'Improved Life-Buoy, and a System of Deck Rafts for Saving Life at Sea,' Dr. H. Hamilton; 'On his Bow and Stern Screw Ship,' Mr. R. Griffiths.

TUES. Statistical, 7.
— Anthropological, 8.—'The Ainos,' Lieut. S. C. Holland; 'Interior of a Tribe of Bushmen in South Africa,' Mr. G. W. Stow; 'Specimens of Native Australian Languages,' Mr. A. Mackenzie.
— Zoological, 8.—'Osteology of the Maltese Fossil Elephants,' Dr. A. L. Adams; 'Geographical Distribution of Asiatic Birds,' Mr. H. J. Elwes.

WED. Meteorological, 6.—Council; 7. 'Results of Temperature Observations at Durban,' Mr. J. J. Plummer; 'Climate of Vancouver Island,' Mr. R. H. Scott; 'Meteorological Observations at Zi-Ka-Wei, near Shanghai,' Rev. A. M. Colombe; 'Connexion between Colliery Explosions and Weather,' Mr. R. H. Scott; President's Annual Address.

THURS. Chemical, 6.—'Influence of Pressure on Fermentation,' Part II., Mr. H. Brown; 'Action of the Copper-Zinc Couple on Organic Bodies,' III., and on Nitrates and Isopropyl Iodides,' Dr. J. H. Gladstone and Mr. A. Tribe; 'Cymenes from Different Sources Optically Considered,' Dr. J. H. Gladstone; 'Action of Zinc on the Oxidation Products of Morphine and Codeine Derivatives,' Mr. E. L. Mayer and Dr. C. R. A. Wright; 'Decomposition of Tricalcic Phosphate by Water,' Mr. R. Warren; 'New Alluvium Mineral,' with Notes on a Systematic Mineralogical Survey of the Country,' Mr. J. J. Gunnery; Communications from the Laboratory of the London Institution, No. XII., 'New Derivatives of Creosol,' Dr. H. E. Armstrong, and Mr. C. L. Field.

— Linnean, 8.—'Sub-Alpine Vegetation of Kilma-njare,' Dr. H. B. Kuhn; 'Development of the Gymnosperms of, and the Method of Imregnation in, *Primula vulgaris*,' Mr. P. M. Duncan.

— Royal, 8.
— Antiquaries, 8.—'Further Discoveries at Silchester,' Rev. J. G. Joyce.

FRI. Philological, 8.—'Suggestions towards an approximate Grouping of the principal English Dialects,' H. I. H. Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte.

Science Gossip.

THE HON. J. W. STRUTT, Senior Wrangler and First Smith's Prizeman, for the year 1865, is engaged in preparing for the press a work on the 'Theory of Sound.' It is intended to form a tolerably complete account of the present state of the science. It is to be published by Messrs. Macmillan.

An illustration of the use to which the free telegraphic transmission of astronomical discoveries has been put has occurred in the case of the last new planet (No. 131), which was discovered at Washington on May 26, and observed at Marseilles on the night of May 27, the news having been received by Atlantic cable, and sent on from Paris to Marseilles. It may be of interest to give the exact words of the telegram:—"Planet sixteen fourteen south twenty-one eighteen motion due west eleventh." Which is, being interpreted,—"A planet has been discovered, the right ascension of which is 16h. 14m., and declination 21° 18' south; the motion in a due westerly direction, and the magnitude about the eleventh." It is noteworthy that No. 31 was the first of these bodies which was discovered in America, in the year 1854; the present (which has already been announced in the *Athenæum*) is, therefore, the hundredth discovery since that time.

We are glad to find that the chemists of this country are stirring themselves to aid in the erection of a memorial to Justus von Liebig. Drs. Warren De La Rue, Frankland, Gilbert, Odling, Stenhouse, and Williamson, are members of a committee, of which Dr. Hugo Müller is the secretary, and will receive subscriptions.

In "Science Gossip," of May 31st, we alluded to Mr. Willis's process for copying mechanical drawings by photography. That gentleman wishes us to correct our statement, as it regards the resemblance of his process to the cyanotype. The colouring matter in his prints is aniline black, "and this distinguishes the process from every other in photography."

Les Mondes, for May 22nd, contains an anonymous paper of much interest, entitled 'Théorie de la Conservation des Substances Alimentaires.' M. du Moncel, à Lébisey, communicates to the same journal a highly mathematical paper, 'Sur les Résistances Maxima des Bobines Magnétiques,' and a translation of Capt. Douglas Galton's paper, 'On the Economy of Fuel for Domestic Purposes.'

The Bulletin de la Société Chimique de Paris, for May, contains a practical paper 'On Aniline Black,' by M. Ch. Lauth. This paper is translated and published in the *Chemical News*, for June 6th. Dr. A. W. Hofmann has one paper on the Aniline Violets, and six papers on Phosphines and kindred inquiries, in *Berichte der Deutschen Chemischen Gesellschaft zu Berlin*, for April 28th, which papers were read before the Académie des Sciences de Berlin.

M. DE LA GOURNERIE, the distinguished geometer, has been elected a member of the Academy of Sciences, of France, in the place of M. le Comte Jaubert, and M. Desains has been elected to fill the place in the section of physics lately occupied by M. Babinet.

A PLEASING notice of the scientific life and works of Edouard Claparède, the Professor of Comparative Anatomy in the Academy of Geneva, who died on May 31st, 1871, is given by M. Charles Vogt, in the *Journal de Zoologie*, No. 2 for 1873. The date 1872 should have followed the 1st of April, in our notice of Hugo von Mohl, in our last "Science Gossip."

THE *Archives des Sciences Physiques et Naturelles*, published at Geneva, for May 15th, contains an important paper by M. Ernest Favre, being a review of the progress of Swiss geology for 1872.

MR. L. C. MIAUD, the curator of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, has produced an excellent "Descriptive Guide to the Fossil Collection" to be found in the Philosophical Museum in Leeds. It is a pamphlet of forty-four pages, and is published by the Society for one penny.

CARL VOGT'S *Lehrbuch der Geologie und Petrefactenkunde* has just been completed, with an excellent index, such as the Germans only make, of 149 pages.

In the *Forekomster af Kise i Vise Skifere i Norge*, edited by Prof. E. B. Münster, of Christiania, the very useful course of giving a *résumé* of its contents in English is adopted. The "Layers of Pyrites in Certain Slates in Norway" is exceedingly well rendered, and is thus made useful to the many who do not read Swedish.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Burlington House, Piccadilly.—The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY IS NOW OPEN.—Admission from Eight till Seven, One Shilling. Catalogue, One Shilling. LUMBE STOCKS, R.A. See pro tem.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, 5, Pall Mall East, from Nine till Seven.—Admission, One Shilling; Catalogue, 6d.

INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN. Admission, One Shilling. Gallery, 53, Pall Mall.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

DORÉ'S GREAT PICTURE of "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM," with "Triumph of Christianity," "Christian Martyrs," "Francesca de Rimini," "Neophyte," "Andromeda," &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Ten to Six.—Admission 1s.

NOW OPEN.—THE SUMMER EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY OF FRENCH ARTISTS, 163, New Bond Street.—Eugène Delacroix's great Picture, of the "Death of Sardanapalus," and Jules Dupré's "Southampton Meadows," are NOW ON VIEW, at the above Exhibition. Admission, One Shilling, from Ten to Six.

CH. DESCHAMPS, Secretary.

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

We have at last before us the Bill amended by the Select Committee, or, in other words, the final compromise by which this much-vexed question will be settled. The Government have gone backwards and forwards in the oddest way in their dealings with the Embankment question. The first proposition was, that they should keep the whole of the land in dispute, or offer the whole, or any part of it, to London for its full value. That proposition was unacceptable to the House of Commons, and the next year produced a very different one. This second proposition was, roughly speaking, that the Crown should make no use of two-thirds of the land in dispute. But, on the other hand, London was not to get it. Nobody was to have it. It was to become a sort of no-man's land—a dust-bin on a large scale—a receptacle for dead cats, enclosed within an impervious wall. The result of this dog-in-the-manger sort of proposition was, that London would be permitted to look at the ground, but not to walk upon it,—for fear, we suppose, lest it should wear out.

At a later period, in view of a fresh defeat in the House of Commons, the Government agreed to the appointment of a Committee, and that Committee recommended that the whole of the land should be appropriated, at a moderate rent, to the enjoyment of the inhabitants of London. The session after this a Bill was introduced by the Government, in which they repudiated the decision of their own Committee,—a Committee before which the Government view had been fully stated, and on which were the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Attorney-General. The Bill proposed that 40,000*l.* should be paid by London for the

whole of the land. That Bill was again referred to a fresh Committee. The Committee added to the proposal of the Bill a further proposal, giving power to the Metropolitan Board to acquire a portion of the land for the sum of 3,000*l.*, in case they should not take the whole; the fact being, as shown by the evidence of Mr. Watson, that the Government never intended to build over the portion of the land which they now propose to let London have for a garden.

The House of Commons has on several occasions pronounced emphatically against the view taken by the Government on behalf of the Crown, namely, that the Government are bound to treat this land as entirely their own, and to extort from London the full value for any portion of it that they give up. It must not be supposed that the money to be paid for a portion of the land is in the nature of a concession. It was admitted on the part of the Government, in the evidence given before the Committee for the Office of Woods, that it was no concession at all, and that 3,000*l.* is the full value of the land which it is proposed to give up, looking to the fact that the Government would be unable to build upon that portion of the land.

What is the equitable claim of London to this land? Its value as building land has been wholly created by London taxes. That is an indisputable proposition, and it weighed so much with the House of Commons that, by an overwhelming majority, the House pronounced against the Government view. Some gentlemen took, both on the Committees and in the House, the very strong view that strict law ought to be enforced against London on this occasion, and that no equitable claims should be regarded because London had obtained in other matters unfair advantages over the country. But if there be any who are disposed to take this view, we would ask them in mere fairness to remember that, on the other hand, London is in certain matters taxed for the country. For instance, the price of London telegrams has positively been doubled for the advantage of the rest of the country by the Government, and might be reduced to about one-twelfth of the sum at which it at present stands were the system conducted with a view only to the advantage of the people of this city; and figures of the simplest kind will also, for instance, show that one farthing instead of a penny for London letters would leave an enormous profit on London correspondence.

Leaving, however, merely equitable considerations, we should like to look somewhat more widely at the question. This is a case where the Government, with great unadvised, have all along been dealing with the Crown lands on the principle that they are bound to make the utmost farthing from their possession. If no other consideration than that of making the utmost farthing is to be brought into play in dealing with the Crown lands, it is clear that the wisest course would be to sell those lands outright, for no one can contend for a single moment but that that course would be, financially speaking, most desirable. But we think that the feeling of the great majority, both of the people of the country and of their representatives, has been clearly shown to be that financial considerations alone ought not to guide our dealings with this subject. But if that is the case with regard to the Crown lands generally, it is specially true with regard to the foreshores. The title of the Crown to the land in question on this occasion is a foreshore title. Most of the foreshores have been transferred to the Board of Trade, and the Board of Trade has always dealt with them in the most equitable manner, and with every possible consideration for the interests of localities. It is only the Office of Woods that has behaved as though its sole duty was to extort the utmost farthing. The memorandum of the Board of Trade upon the subject of foreshores committed to its charge has been often referred to in the course of these discussions in the House of Commons, and has been printed by one of the Committees. Nothing can be better reading for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and for Mr. Howard and Mr. Gore. It says:—"The

assumption is fatally erroneous that the pecuniary interest of the public in the foreshore is its most important interest. We must be prepared to forego, in many cases, the prices which, if we were private landowners, we might insist on demanding." It has always been constitutional doctrine in England that the Crown holds its lands on trust for the people. But it is only in this case that we have had Chancellors of the Exchequer attempting to prove that the representatives of the Crown have a right to do acts of which any other landed proprietor in the kingdom would be ashamed.

When the representatives of the Crown set to work to show that the Crown has certain legal rights over this ground, they engaged themselves in an attempt to prove that which nobody has denied. Nobody contends, and nobody wishes to contend, that the Crown has not an absolute legal right to the land. The question is, whether it has a moral right to use the land in a way inconsistent with the enjoyment of those by whose expenditure the land has been created. The Crown stands in an excellent legal position in reference to this matter, and that admirable position is chiefly due to the fact that the Crown took extremely good care of its interests at a time when there was nobody to take care of those of London. A very bad bargain was made with the Crown when a far better one might have been made. We frankly admit that the bargain was made, and that nothing can touch the legal position of the Crown. We go further. It was perfectly right, in our opinion, that the Crown should retain the dominant interest in this land. It was obviously for the public good that the Crown should not part with its rights over the reclaimed foreshore lying between the Crown buildings and the new roadway of the Embankment. But, on the other hand, the Crown allowed Mr. Gore to publish a statement in its name which excited the laughter of all those who are acquainted with the subject. It would appear from it that the Crown has surrendered, without compensation, valuable rights and properties, whereas, it has given up without compensation certain properties which never, in fact, existed. It gave up by anticipation these properties before they were created or had any value, and it has gained in return by the rise in the value of the property of which it is really possessed. In Mr. Gore's Report there was a great plot of land in front of Somerset House, marked "Surrendered by the Crown to the Metropolitan Board, without money compensation to the Crown." Now, ten years ago, this "land surrendered by the Crown without money compensation" was deep water. Another piece of the land, in fact, the piece now in question, was called a "reservation made to the Crown of part of its own land," but of the land so "reserved," part used at low-water to be mud—all of it was water at high-water, and part was water at low-water, and had not even the dignity of being mud. We are happy to say, for the sake of Mr. Gore's consistency, that he boldly claimed for the Crown, not only the foreshore, but the whole bed of the Thames. Perhaps some day he will propose to divert the river at the cost of London, and to let the present bed upon a building lease.

The question of the legality of the Crown claim does not touch the case. No one denies that the land belongs to the Crown. No one wishes that it should not belong to the Crown. No one wants to take it away from the Crown. On the other hand, the London case is that the Crown has no moral right to deal with it in a way prejudicial to London interests, for it is no ancient property of the Crown—no property bought by the money of the Crown; but a wholly new creation, and a creation by the expenditure of London money. If we are to have extreme assertions of Crown rights, we must inquire why the greatest amount of money has not been made of the whole—why the acres that have been surrendered for nothing to the Crown lessees should not have been built over, as it was threatened to build over the piece in dispute.

The Embankment was built by Parliament for London. Now, it is rather hard to make a bargain for some one else, and then to take the utmost advantage of any accidental concessions that you give yourself. London does not seem to have been so much as heard. In the first copy of Mr. Gore's Report that was distributed to Members of the House of Commons, it was set forth that counsel was heard on behalf of London during the inquiry; but this seems to have been an error, for the next day a new page was printed and circulated in substitution for the former, in which that statement was omitted, the paper being in no other matter changed. The Court of Chancery has always been jealous of allowing hard bargains to be made for children during infancy, by persons acting nominally on their behalf. That was what was done for London, with this further incident, that the persons who drove the hard bargain against London were the same persons who were concerned upon the other side.

The fact is that the whole of the land along the Embankment ought to have been comprised in one grand arrangement upon a sweeping plan as a great public improvement. But this would have interfered with the perpetration of certain petty jobs of the Commissioners of Woods, and the result is that we have Crown rights surrendered to individuals for next to nothing, and great brick walls erected to the disadvantage of the public, at a moment when the same Crown rights are being vehemently enforced against the public almost at the same spot.

We welcome the settlement of this much-vexed question, on which, from time to time, we have expressed our view, although we cannot regard the compromise arrived at as a complete victory of right.

BURN'T PARIS.

THE work of repairing the damage inflicted on Paris by the Commune goes on steadily. Huge gaps and enormous ruins still appear where formerly stood large and handsome buildings, but a vast deal has been effected in effacing the mischief.

The office of the Finance Minister, in the Rue de Rivoli, which at this time last year was a mere shell filled with *débris*, does not at present exist; everything has been carted away, and the site is vacant,—doubtless much to the delight of the inhabitants of the Rue du Mont Thabor. The front of the Palais Royal, facing the Louvre, is in the hands of the masons; the interior façade, facing the smaller square, has been rebuilt. The result of M. Courbet's freak is seen in the stump of the column in the Place Vendôme, which is covered with tarpaulin. The building of the Conseil d'Etat, on the Quai d'Orsay, extending back to the Rue de Lille, formerly one of the most beautiful structures in Paris, remains untouched; four great façades and an inner court are a complete and mournful wreck. The Préfecture de Police is practically finished, as far as the masonry goes, and a great deal has been done to the Palais de Justice proper. The Caisse d'Amortissement, between the Rue de Lille and the Quai Voltaire, is nearly re-constructed. Hoardings remain on the outer face of the Arc de l'Étoile, where workmen are, or appear to be, repairing the sculptures. The Palace of the Legion of Honour, Quai d'Orsay, was rebuilt long ago. It is doubtless indirectly owing to the disasters of France that the huge buildings of the new Hôtel Dieu, from the Quai Napoléon to the Place du Parvis de Notre Dame, are, so to say, laid up in bandages. Nothing has been done to the river front of the Palace of the Corps Législatif facing the Pont de la Concorde; here the effects of cannon-shot are distinct in the shattered capital of one of the columns, on one of the shafts, and the pediment. There are hoardings about two of the groups of river gods, &c., near the Orangerie, in the Jardin des Tuilleries. The front of the Palais des Champs-Élysées, where the *Salon* is held, has been repaired. The Hôtel de Ville is as it was, but will soon be taken in hand; the building facing the Hôtel de Ville, between the Rue de Rivoli and the

Avenue Victoria, and the burnt houses in the avenue, are untouched; a flower-pot, with a withered plant, which we noticed last year, is still on one of the sills. The Théâtre Lyrique remains a complete wreck; the damage to the Théâtre du Châtelet was not considerable, and soon repaired. The magnificent Pavillon Richelieu, one of the pavilions of the Tuilleries, which faces the Place de l'Impératrice, is still a ruin. More affecting than any, is the palace of the Tuilleries proper, between the Place du Carrousel and the garden. Here, from the Pavillon Rohan, in the Rue de Rivoli, all round to the great square tower before the Pont Royal, are lofty walls, fallen roofs and floors, twisted iron bars, and piles of stones; the masonry is calcined red, and marked with smoke where the flames rushed from the windows, the architraves have been shattered, and the sides of the openings exfoliated by the heat. The windows of the great pavilion, before mentioned as facing the Pont Royal, with their glazing entire, remain open, and no one cares to shut them. Meanwhile, on the angles of the last-mentioned portion of the palace, overlooking the Place Napoléon III, the Victories stand, and blow their long trumpets to east and to west, as if all were well.

MEMOIRS OF THOMAS BARKER.

Fir Cottage, Bathwick, Bath.

HAVING always regarded the *Athenæum* as a journal which represents in an eminent degree the interest of Literature and the Fine Arts, I crave permission, through the medium of its columns, to solicit the loan of all documents, as well as any items of anecdotal or other information, having reference to the life or works of Thomas Barker, of Bath, painter of 'The Woodman,' &c., of those of your readers who may be in the possession of such documents or information, for the purposes of the 'Memoirs of Thomas Barker,' of which I have undertaken the editorship. The loan of letters written by the artist, containing criticisms or observations on Art, or anything likely to be of biographical interest, is particularly requested by

THE EDITOR OF THE 'MEMOIRS OF THOMAS BARKER.'

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold, for pounds, on the three latter days of last week, the collection of sculptures, pictures, drawings, and engravings which belonged to the late John Hargreaves, Esq., of Broad Oak, Accrington. Sculptures: Bust of Sir W. Scott, 78.—Mr. E. H. Foley, Egeria, bust, 71; Diana, 71.—J. Gibson, A Nymph, 52.—Mr. B. E. Spence, A Nymph, bust, 52.—Mr. M. Wood, Nymph at the Bath, statue, 346.—R. J. Wyatt, Nymph at the Bath, statue, 425.—A two-handled Amphora, carved with Masks, 149. Engraving: R. Morghen, after Guido, Aurora, proof, 52. Pictures: Cuy, The White Horse, 409; Prince Maurice, 126; The Governor of Batavia, with his Wife and a Negro Page, with the Port of Batavia and shipping, 231. Drawings: Mdlle. R. Bonheur, A Stag and two Hinds in the Forest of Fontainebleau, 158; Horses and Oxen at Pasture, 1,050.—Guercino, Christ and the Woman of Samaria, 378.—Fra Bartolomeo, The Virgin, Infant Christ, and St. John, landscape background, 231.—E. Verboeckhoven, Sheep, Lambs, and Poultry, 84.—M. P. Van Schendel, A Dutch Market-place, 126.—Mr. C. Landelle, An Egyptian Water-carrier, 241.—M. Bauguereau, The Tambourine-player, 420.—Mr. J. Bertrand, Ophelia, 278.—M. R. Bernier, A Scene on the Coast of Normandy, 168.—M. G. De Jonghe, Interior, with two ladies and a child, 105.—M. E. Frère, The Interior of a Library, a boy and girl looking at a picture-book, 425; See-saw, seven figures, 273; An Interior of a Cottage, with three children, 231; A Morning Gossip at Écouen, 262.—M. A. Bonheur, Driving Cattle, 420. Pictures: M. A. Jourdan, Maternal Affection, 168.—C. Baxter, Little Red Riding Hood, 178.—F. Stone, The Missing Boat, 115.—Mr. Linnell, A Landscape, with a figure of Isaac, 231; The Harvest Waggon, 177; Harvest Shower, 1,050.—F.

Danby, A Coast Scene, sunset, 105.—Mr. T. S. Cooper, Herdsman, with cattle and sheep, 157; Cattle, 315.—D. Cox, A Coast Scene, with fishermen, 201.—Wilkie, Sunday Morning, 105.—G. Morland, Reading the News at the Inn, 136; Reading the News in the Stable-yard, 157; The Stone Quarry, 157.—W. Duffield, Still Life, 110.—W. Wyld, On the Lake of Como, 199.—J. F. Herring, The Stirrup Cup, 162.—Mr. W. J. Linton, Derwentwater, 525.—Mr. W. E. Frost, Nymphs Surprised, 262.—Mr. F. Goodall, A Scene in the Trenches at Lucknow, 420; Feeding the Rabbits, 357.—Mr. H. O'Neill, An Incident in Luther's Monastic Life at Erfurt, 419.—Mr. E. N. Ward, Elizabeth, Queen of Edward IV., delivering the Duke of York to Archbishops Bourchier and Rotheham, 178.—Mr. M. Stone, The Refuge of the Royalists, 231.—Mr. W. F. Yeames, The Visit to the Haunted Chamber, 420.—Mr. A. Johnston, Robin Adair, 106.—Sir J. Gilbert, The King's Trumpeter, 304.—Eddy, A Dream, 157; Scene from 'Comus,' 840; A Toilette of Venus, 430.—Mr. W. C. T. Dobson, The Fountain, 204.—Stanfield, Island of Mazorbo, and Tercetto, 1,470; Weobley Castle, 315.—Mr. E. W. Cooke, Venice, 241.—Calcott, The Thames and St. Paul's, 410; A Classical River-scene, 651.—Mr. Ansdell, The Shepherd's Revenge, 472; Going to the Lodge, 399.—Mr. Calderon, L'Allegro, 194; Il Penseroso, 262; On the Banks of the Clain, 614.—J. Phillip, A Connemara Peasant-Girl, 430; Gathering the Offerings, 1,102.—Messrs. T. Faed and H. Bright, The Lesson, 100.—Mr. F. R. Pickersgill, Ferdinand Banishing Rosalind, 100.—Mr. Frith, The Toilette, 168; Mary, Queen of Scots, 451; A Flower-seller, 577.—Mr. W. Linnell, Gathering the Flock, 346.—D. Roberts, Interior of St. Jacques, Antwerp, 1,050.—Nasmyth, An open Landscape, 514; A Woody Landscape, 787.—Mr. J. E. Hodson, An Arabian Patriarch, 315.—W. Collins, A Peace-maker, 304.—Creswick, The Windmill, 472.—Constable, A Heath-scene, 1,050.—Mr. Leighton, A Lady with a Pomegranate, 241.—Mr. T. Faed, "Father's Coming," 703.—Müller, Lago Maggiore, 525.—Egg, A Scene from 'The Monastery,' 519.—Mr. Webster, Volunteers at Artillery Practice, 892; The Boy with many Friends, 2,100.—Mr. Frith, Pope making Love to Lady W. Montagu, 1,417.—Sir E. Landseer, Pensioners, 1,680.—Mr. Linnell, Homeward Bound, 777; Woodlands, 1,060.—Mr. Hook, A Dream of Venice, 840.—Mr. J. Millais, Awake, 1,417.

At the sale of M. Faure's pictures, at the Boulevard des Italiens, 26, Paris, on the 7th instant, the following prices, in pounds, were obtained. M. Corot, La Cueillette, 280; Les Hauteurs de Ville d'Avray, 300; Le Pont de Mantes, 164; Un Ravin, 340.—Delacroix, Les Deux Foscaris, 3,220; Le Christ au Tombeau, 2,400; Chevaux sortant de l'Eau, 1,024; Ophélie, 1,360; Lion dévorant un Caiman, 832; Musiciens Arabes, 340.—M. M. Diaz, Terrains boisés et Forêt, près Fontainebleau, 188.—M. J. Dupré, Grand Parage du Limousin, 1,524; Un Marais dans les Basses-Pyrénées, 764; Une Rivière, Pâturage, près de l'Oise, 604; Pointe des Dunes de Saint-Quentin dans La Manche, marine, 520; Un Berger, 248; Chemin de Champagne après la Pluie, 480; Une Barque de Pêcheurs, marine, 260; Lisière d'une Forêt, 1,040; Intérieur d'une Ferme dans Le Berry, 760; Barque de Pêcheurs, marine, 222; Un Berger au Novembre, 140.—M. Hébert, La Danse, 320.—M. Millet, (Edipe détaché de l'Arbre, 596; Un Bout de Village de Greville, 832.—M. Ribot, Cinabré et Giotto, 86.—M. Roybet, Une Bohémienne, 484.—T. Rousseau, Le Vieux Pont de Saint-Cloud, 210; Déversoir du Moulin de Batignies, 236.—Troyon, Berger rameant son Troupeau, 688. Total, 20,606. The purchasers paid 5 per cent. in addition.

Fine-Art Gossip.

AN exhibition is about to be opened of pictures and other works of art, contributed for the benefit of the French charities in London, which are in

much need of help. The exhibition will be held at 168, New Bond Street. We believe the French Ambassador takes a leading part in the scheme, which will involve the distribution of the works by lottery, or some analogous mode. Contributions of pictures, drawings, &c., will be received by M. Durand-Ruel.

FIRST-CLASS medals for paintings in the current *Salon* have been awarded to MM. Guesnet, for 'Roland à Ronceveaux,' and Merson, for 'Vision, Légende du XIV^e Siècle.' Second-class medals have been awarded to MM. Beaumont, Collin, Cormon, Gautier, Imer, Lehoux, Maillart, Ranvier, and Ségré. First-class sculpture medals have been given to MM. Allar and Baujault. Second-class medals in the same class to Madame Bertaux, MM. Blanchard, Bourgeois, Chemillier, Chervert, Fourquet, Louis-Noël, and Saint-Jean. First-class medals in architecture to MM. Corroyer and Lheureux. Second-class medals to MM. Danjoy, Maurice-Ouradou, Selmersheim, and Vionnois.

The death of Mr. Robert Mitchell, engraver, is announced as having taken place on the 16th ult., at Bromley, in his fifty-third year.

HERE is a timely and much-needed reminder:—"Four years since, in the year 1869, you were so good as to insert a few lines from me, calling attention to the fact that no change had been made, for many years, in the engravings on the screens in the King's Library in the British Museum. The consequence was, that the engravings in question were replaced by those now on the screens. I venture to think that the latter have now done their duty, and may be replaced by others from the inexhaustible stock of the institution.—A. H."

MUSIC

MUSICAL UNION.—JAELL and AUER, expressly from Paris and St. Petersburg, NEXT TUESDAY, will play Rubinstein's Grand Sonata, Op. 19, for Piano and Violin; Quartet, C minor, Beethoven; and Quintet in C, Schubert; and Solo, included in Programme. J. ELLA, 9, Victoria Square.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—Conductor, Mr. W. G. Cushing.—LAST CONCERT BUT ONE, MONDAY, June 23, Eight o'clock, St. James's Hall. Alfred Jaell will play Brahms's Concerto; Beethoven's Symphony, No. 8; Mozart's Jupiter; Overtures, 'Tannhäuser' and 'Precious';—Stalls, 10s. 6d., 7s., and 2s. 6d.; Stanley Lucas, Weber & Co., 2s.; New Bond Street; usual Agents; and Austin's Ticket-Office, St. James's Hall.

NEW PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS, St. James's Hall.—J. F. Barnett's New Oratorio, 'THE RAISING OF LAZARUS.' First time of performance under the Direction of the Composer. WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 18. Public Rehearsal, Saturday Afternoon, June 14. Matinée, 2s.; Evening, 5s.; Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Box Seats, 12s.; Box Seats, 10s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 7s.; Balcony, 5s.; Ares, 2s.; at St. James's Hall, and the Musicians' Hall.

M. MÜLLE and HERR HEERMANN'S MATINÉE MUSICALE, TUESDAY, June 17, at Three o'clock, St. George's Hall.—Vocalists, Madame Regan-Schimon and Mdlle. Carola; Pianoforte, Miss Zimmermann; Harp, Mdlle. Heermann; Violin, Herr Heermann; Violoncello, Herr Daubert. Conductors, Mr. Ganz and Monsieur Schimon.—Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Unreserved, 5s.; at Messrs. Chappell's, 50, New Bond Street; and Mdlle. and Herr Heermann's residence, 78, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mrs. John Wood; Director, Mons. Humbert.—This, and every Evening during the Week, at a quarter-past Eight, the celebrated Opéra-Bouffe, in Three Acts, 'LA FÊTE DE LA MER.' Music by Charles Lecocq. The Original Cast from the Fantastique-Pétrin, Brussels, Madame Desclanzas their first appearance in England, Pauline Louigini, Delorme; Messrs. Marie Widmer, Jolly, Chambry. Orchestra and Chorus of Seventy. Conductor, M. Warnots.—Private Boxes, Three, Four, Five, and Six Guineas; Stalls, 1s.; Dress Circle, 10s. 6d.; First Circle, 7s.; Side Boxes, 4s.; Gallery, 2s.—Box-Office Open from Eleven till Five.

In preparation, 'Les Cent Vierges,' and 'Les Braconniers,' first time in England; 'La Belle Hélène' and 'Les Brigands.'

'MIGNON' AND 'HAMLET.'

COMPOSERS have at all times been anxious to turn to account dramas and epic poems. Lulli, Jomelli, Cherubini, and Gluck have used the Greek drama. Purcell has set 'King Arthur,' 'Timon of Athens,' 'The Tempest,' 'Edipus,' and 'Don Quixote.' There are settings of 'Romeo and Juliet,' by Zingarelli, Bellini, Vacay, Gounod, &c. Shakespeare's comedies have been used by Salieri, Nicolai, Adolphe Adam, Bishop, Balfé, M. Ambroise Thomas, and others. Rossini selected 'Othello' for one of his operas, and afterwards based his masterpiece, 'William Tell,' on Schiller's play. Beaumarchais' comedy, 'The Marriage of Figaro,' proved eminently suggestive both to Mozart and Rossini. To Molière's 'Don Juan' we owe one of the grandest and most popular of lyric dramas, and M. Gounod founded one of his finest works

on 'Le Médecin malgré Lui.' To enumerate the overtures which have been written for the Shakespearean drama would fill much space. Meyerbeer had serious thoughts of setting 'Macbeth,' which Signor Verdi has done; and the composer of the 'Huguenots' once talked of taking as a theme a libretto by MM. Carré and Jules Barbier, for the Théâtre Lyrique in Paris, based on Goethe's 'Wilhelm Meister,' the heroine of which, Mignon, was to have been created by Madame Carvalho. The book, however, came into the hands of M. Ambroise Thomas, who produced his version at the Opéra Comique, on the 17th of November, 1866. M. Thomas, however, had previously set 'Hamlet,' the same French poets having treated the play much after the fashion in which they treated Goethe's novel, 'Wilhelm Meister,' that is, they departed freely from the original text. 'Hamlet' was not brought out at the Grand Opéra till the 9th of March, 1868, owing to the composer not having found a *prima donna* for his Ophelia, qualified physically, poetically, musically, and dramatically for the creation. It is related that one day M. Thomas walked into the *magasin* of his publisher, and explained he could not find a vocalist after his own heart for Ophelia. At this moment Madame Nilsson entered the shop. "There she is," said the music publisher, and then and there the Swedish lady, who had achieved a reputation at the Lyrique, had the part allotted to her. 'Mignon' has travelled far and wide, but 'Hamlet' has only penetrated where Madame Nilsson and M. Faure are to be found. When the Swedish songstress was a member of the company, directed in 1869 by Mr. Gye and Mr. Mapleson, 'Hamlet,' in its Italian adaptation, was produced for her, with Mr. Santley as the Danish prince. In Mr. Mapleson's Covent Garden Winter Season of the same year, Mdlle. Murska was Ophelia, and Mr. Santley Hamlet. In 1870, at the Royal Italian Opera, we had Fräulein Sessi as Ophelia, and Signor Cotogni as Hamlet. On the 5th inst., the opera was revived at Covent Garden, with Mdlle. Albani as Ophelia, for the first time, and M. Faure as Hamlet, and the work was to be repeated last night (the 13th inst.). Last Tuesday night, we had the revival, at Drury Lane, of 'Mignon,' with Madame Nilsson in the title-part. We have, therefore, the curious fact, that at the two Italian Opera-houses, adaptations of two French operas by one composer are being played—the one taken from the Grand Opera-house, Paris, the other from the Opéra Comique. We notice, consequently, the two productions together. M. Ambroise Thomas has been, indeed, a most fortunate musician. He has produced some sixteen operas, and the music for two ballets, between 1837 and 1868. His earliest success was with the three-act comic opera, 'Le Caid,' in 1849. This very droll parody of Italian music was, as we have often remarked, the precursor of MM. Offenbach and Hervé in their burlesque operas. M. Thomas gained a more legitimate triumph in 'Le Songe d'une Nuit d'Été,' the libretto of which was a compound of the 'Midsummer Night's Dream' and 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' the chief character being Shakespeare, who is introduced as the lover of Queen Elizabeth. The admirers of M. Thomas insist that his 'Psyche,' which was a failure, is a masterpiece. Be this as it may, the 'Mignon' of 1866 was a real triumph. His 'Hamlet' was saved solely through Madame Nilsson's Ophelia and M. Faure's Hamlet, for, without one or the other of those great artists, nothing can be more dreary and dull. The French baritone-basso modelled his delineation of 'Hamlet' on Macready's, which M. Faure saw as a boy, when our English tragedian was in Paris. Madame Nilsson, in her "get-up," must have copied Ary Scheffer's painting; of her ideal creation let a French poet's criticism be cited as the best description:—

Le rêve de Shakespeare en vous s'est incarné ;
Lorsque vous paraissiez, avec ces tresses blondes,
Ce front pâle, de fleurs sauvages couronnée
Et ces grands yeux profonds et bleus comme les ondes.

Vous en avez gardé le charme poétique
Et dans le vent jamais elle n'a murmuré,

D'une voix plus touchante et plus mélancolique
D'Adieu si déchirant et si désespér.

We know but of one other artist who could have played Ophelia, and that is Madame Jenny Lind-Goldschmidt. In the mad scene nothing could be more wonderful than the singing of Mdlle. Murska; but we had to wait until the close of the opera for this grand display. Fräulein Sessi again had some "sky-rocket" *roulades*, but was a block of marble generally; and Mdlle. Albani was cold almost to repulsiveness. If the entire range of operatic characters had been searched, it would have been difficult to find one less suited to her vocal and histrionic powers. It would be useless to follow in detail an impersonation so totally free from pathos and passion. M. Faure was a Triton amongst the minnows; for the orchestral and choral ensemble, and the general cast, except the Queen of Madame Simico, were weak and imperfect.

Owing to the necessity of composing recitatives for the French dialogue, the Italian adaptation by Signor Zaffira, although ably done, renders 'Mignon' somewhat wearisome. M. Thomas has written the recitatives, and, as he is a master of orchestration, the opera gains musically what it loses dramatically, but the work might be shortened advantageously, especially as the interest is so concentrated in the title rôle. We find also reminiscences which might have been avoided, and the *Styrienne* or *Polacca* which is found in the prelude or overture, is somewhat common-place. But Mignon, from the operatic point of view, is a charming conception. We have her in the first act amongst the gypsies, vaguely dreaming of some unknown land, roused to resist the commands of her rough masters. A poor minstrel, Lothario, and Wilhelm Meister come to her rescue. Disguised as a page, Mignon accompanies the latter in his travels. She loves her master, but she has a rival in the actress Filina. Mignon, in her jealousy, invokes the fire of Heaven to destroy the theatre in which Filina is playing, and the demented Lothario is the incendiary who answers her appeal. In the third act the scene is transplanted to Italy, where a *château* on the borders of the Lake of Garda is bought by Wilhelm; and in this building Lothario's reason is restored. It is discovered that he is the owner of the *château*, the Count Cipriani, and that Mignon is Sperata, his lost child; and so Filina is rejected by Wilhelm for Mignon. Nearly all the dramatic situations of interest are thus confined to one part. Goethe has but little to do with the French Mignon, who is made the persecuted heroine of domestic life, and Filina becomes a cruel coquette, devoid of the redeeming qualities of the German original. M. Thomas, for the German translation, makes Mignon die; and this would be a right point if the French librettists had so willed it in the first instance. So long as a Mignon like Madame Nilsson, or, as the Germans assert, like Madame Pauline Lucca, is to be found, the opera will attract attention and command sympathy. The first act is replete with musical excitement; a *bravura* song, whilst the Bohemians dance, is most effective. There is a well laid out sexto and an excellent trio. The interrogative duet between Mignon and Wilhelm is a gem, and another *duetto*, between Mignon and the harpist, is full of charm. Indeed, in this act the composer and Goethe are of one mind. Mignon has her *bravura*, in the shape of a *Styrienne*, in the second act; the tenor comes in for an expressive air, "Addio, Mignon," succeeded by another dramatic duet, between Mignon and Lothario. Filina has the *Polacca* of the overture, "Io son Titania." The Prayer in the last act, sung by Mignon, is the complement of the music assigned to the part, and ends what has been so touchingly commenced by the *romanza*, "Non conosci il bel suo."

In no other part has Madame Nilsson displayed such varied powers as an actress and as a singer as in *Mignon*. It may be true that her physical realization of the part prepossesses her auditory strongly in her favour, when Mignon descends from the cart at the command of her brutal master to perform the egg-dance, but the creative faculty

of the artist is displayed from first to last. It is, the Ophelia always excepted, the most complete and consistent delineation she has as yet presented on the lyric stage. She shows delicacy, refinement, and finish in the details. The action of the fingers imitating the fluttering of birds in the song of the Swallows, and the by-play at the side of the fire when Guglielmo is courting Filina, were points worthy of a Rose Chéri or a Desclée. There was great power in the transition from jealousy to rage and despair, as Mignon listens to the plaudits of the audience in the play-house scene bestowed on the Titania, as acted by Filina. The histrionic ability exhibited by Madame Nilsson was coupled with vocalization of more than ordinary excellence; we refer specially to her share in the sextuor of the first act, followed by the *romanza*, and the harp *duo* with the minstrel; the brilliancy of the *Styrienne* in the second act, mingled, as it is, with alternate bursts of joy and sorrow. Graceful in pantomimic movement, combined with facial expression depicting varying emotions, the *Mignon* of Madame Nilsson must be regarded as one of the greatest triumphs ever achieved by any Queen of Song. And so thought her enthusiastic auditory, whose spontaneous applause was something very different from the plaudits of an organized *claqué*. Madame Trebelli-Bettini's singing of a *rondo gavotte*, in the second act, was charming, and M. Capoul sang with expression the two tenor airs; but *Filina* and *Lothario* (the harpist) had very unsatisfactory representatives, and it is a pity that Mdlle. Murska had not assumed the part of the actress, and Signor Rota or Signor Mendioroz that of the father. On the other hand, the orchestral accompaniments were admirable for precision, colouring, and vigour. The *entr'acte* preceding the second act was, indeed, re-demanded, but Sir Michael Costa declined to repeat the movement, which is a kind of minut of the Haydn school. The *mise en scène* was generally good, the scene of the fire in the theatre being animated; and the chorists acted their parts as if present at a real fire. Singularly enough, the decorations formed a miniature resemblance of the Alexandra Palace dome, destroyed so rapidly the day before 'Mignon' was produced.

'BIONDINA.'

DURING M. Gounod's recent Choir Concerts single airs, with the title of 'Biondina' attached, attracted attention, and were noticed in the *Athenæum* as something out of the common order of song-writing. It was stated in the programmes that these compositions formed portions of a musical novel, in twelve chapters. On the 7th inst., at a Matinée given by M. Léonce Valdec, in Tavistock House (once the residence of Charles Dickens, and now occupied by Mr. Weldon), 'Biondina' was presented in its entirety. It is an idyll, the Italian words of which are by Signor G. Zaffira, who gallantly adds to them a dedication, also in choice Italian, to Mrs. G. Weldon, which is supplemented by some French verses addressed to that lady by the composer. But the story of 'Biondina' alone is set to music. There is first a Prologue, explaining how a poet falls in love with the fair Biondina, an orphan; and in successive numbers we have the courtship, the serenades of the wooer, the betrothal, the wedding-day, the illness of the heroine, her death, her funeral, and the poet's despair at her loss. The music of this idyll is eminently suggestive of the various incidents and situations; and M. Gounod has proved uncontested that the most thrilling effects can be produced by the simplest means. Whilst there is complete mastery of form, there is a total absence of extreme keys and of wild and rough modulations. The themes are always melodious, and sometimes quaint, as in Nos. 2 and 3, descriptive of Biondina's Sunday dress and the poet's first declaration. Nos. 5 and 6 are more impassioned airs, the mandoline one especially. The gaiety of the wedding-day, contrasts by its animation with Nos. 9 and 10, in which the death scene is noted with profound pathos. M. Gounod is the Schubert of France in dramatic significance and vivid colouring. In this 'Biondina' idyll he

has shown himself at once an accomplished musician and a composer who possesses poetic feeling. No ordinary amateur need be afraid of singing these airs: for they are adapted for any register. But they require emotional intelligence and intensity, and these qualities were found in last Saturday's interpreters, Mrs. Weldon, M. Léonce Valdec, and Herr Werenrath, who were compelled to repeat several solos. There is no concerted piece; each singer follows the theme of the tale without break and without special observance of either character. The pianoforte accompaniments, played by M. Gounod, are full of point and piquancy, and, when necessary, of pathos and power. We regard this idyll as a good omen: it gives us music—pure music—without distortion and ugliness; it approaches the Mozartian standard of simple melody, legitimately developed, and in which science is subservient to sensibility. M. Léonce Valdec, whose organ, of somewhat rough *timbre*, balances between the tenor and the baritone, as French voices so often do, sings with consummate tact and taste. He was aided by Madame Voarino, an expert Belgian pianist, by Madame Castellan, an able violinist, and by Miss Hale, who was compelled to sing twice M. Gounod's ballad, "My true love hath my heart."

CONCERTS.

THE twentieth anniversary of the opening of the Crystal Palace was celebrated by a commemoration fête. We had a concert, the unveiling of the Paxton memorial, the playing of the fountains, open-air choral singing, an organ performance, trapeze exercises, military bands, and a display of fireworks. There were nearly 26,000 persons present. As music has proved such an important element in the success of Sydenham, it is to be regretted that some great work of Handel was not executed, instead of some fulsome verses, of the poet Bunn kind, in honour of the late Prince Consort, whose good sense would have revolted at such a sycophantic "Ode," so the thing was called. The musical setting, a string of passages in which the composer's memory had been paramount, was too contemptible to require analysis. Mesdames Tietjens and Patey, Mr. Vernon Rigby and Signor Foli were the solo singers. Who read the poetry and the score of the "Ode"? The musical reputation of the Crystal Palace ought not to have been compromised by such a production.

Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony, Schumann's 'Manfred' Overture, Spohr's Prelude to 'Faust,' and the Violin Concerto in D minor, No. 9, by the same composer, and Liszt's symphonic poem, 'Tasso,' were the instrumental items of the sixth Philharmonic Concert, last Monday. The novelty was Dr. Liszt's work; but we must reserve notice of it until a better execution can be secured. Herr Auer, Concert-Master of St. Petersburg, a violinist second only to Herr Joachim, made his first appearance this season. The vocalists were Miss Edith Wynne and Madame Trebelli-Bettini.

For the same reason that we refrain from referring to Dr. Liszt's 'Tasso,' we must abstain from any criticism of the recital of Herr Wagner's 'Lohengrin,' last Saturday, at a public rehearsal, and at a concert on Wednesday. Dr. Wyld is not the conductor to cope with the intricacies of a Wagnerian score.

Mr. Barnby is much to be commended for continuing his revivals of the Handelian oratorios, and the musical public will be delighted when 'Theodora' is executed at the Royal Albert Hall, with full choral and orchestral resources, instead of with the limited appliances available at the Hanover Square Rooms last Tuesday evening. The work contains some grand specimens of colossal choral writing, the secret of which seems to have died with Handel.

The Tonie Sol-Fa Association had a choral festival in the Crystal Palace on the 11th, with a gathering of 4,000 certified singers, conducted by Messrs. Proudman and M'Naught. The pieces were by Bliss, Dykes, F. Abt, H. Smart, Keller, Seward, Worth, Towne, E. C. Horn, Woodbury, Mendelssohn, &c.

There have been concerts this week given by Mr. C. Gardner, the pianist, Mr. Otto Booth, the violinist; and Madame Eugène Oswald, pianist.

At the fifth Matinée of the Musical Union, on the 10th inst., in St. James's Hall, Herr Auer had, as his violin solos, works by Herr Rubinstein and Schubert; and M. Duvernoy selected, for his pianoforte displays, Beethoven's Sonata (Appassionata in F minor, Op. 57) and compositions by Weber and Mendelssohn. The concerted pieces were Mendelssohn's String Quartet, in E flat, No. 2, Op. 12, and Schumann's Pianoforte and String Quintet, in E flat, Op. 44. The entire selection afforded gratification to the company.

Musical Gossip.

By command of the Queen, next Saturday will be a State Night at Covent Garden. The Shah of Persia will be present.

THE London Musical Festival is to commence this afternoon (the 14th) at the Royal Albert Hall, with Handel's 'Messiah': the soprano parts will be sung by Madame Nilsson, the contralto music by Madame Trebelli-Bettini. Mr. Sims Reeves will be the tenor, and Signor Agnesi the bass. Next Wednesday afternoon (the 18th) there will be a selection of sacred and secular works. The solo singers will be the leading Covent Garden artists, with the addition of Mr. Sims Reeves. On the 21st the Festival will close with Rossini's 'Stabat Mater,' and other sacred pieces. The leading singers of Drury Lane will co-operate on the occasion. Mr. Henry Leslie is the conductor, and the profits of the concerts are to be handed over to some of the hospitals.

NEXT Wednesday evening Mr. John Francis Barnett (the composer of the cantatas 'The Ancient Mariner' and 'Paradise and the Peri,' produced at two Birmingham Festivals) will present his new oratorio, 'The Raising of Lazarus,' the solos by Mesdames Lemmens and Patey; Messrs. Vernon Rigby and Santley.

THE cast of M. Lecocq's opera, 'La Fille de Madame Angot,' at St. James's Theatre, has been much strengthened by the return of Mdlle. Desclauz to the part of the actress, Mdlle. Lange, which she created in Brussels, and in which she has greatly pleased the Parisians. There has been a change in the parts at the Folies-Dramatiques, after the hundredth performance; Mdlle. Desclauz is replaced by Mdlle. Raphaël; Mdlle. Duvernoy is Clairette vice Mdlle. Paola Marie; M. Villard has succeeded M. Mendasti as Ange Pitou, and M. Morisseau is now Pomponnet. M. Cantin, the Parisian director, in consequence of his great success, has given a donation of 10,000 francs to the Society of Authors and Composers, and an addition of a fortnight's salary to all the artists and employés of the theatre, making another 14,000 francs. The receipts for 100 nights exceeded 20,500.

PRINCE PONIATOWSKI, who has been engaged as conductor by Mr. Ullmann for a prolonged tour abroad, will give a farewell morning concert on the 18th inst., at which the Drury Lane singers will afford their aid, as also Mr. Santley. Prince Poniatowski, during his long residence in Paris, proved himself to be such a firm friend of art and artists, that liberal support will not be withheld.

AFTER long deliberation, M. Halanzier has resolved that Mdlle. Fides Devriés, who is to be Jeanne d'Arc in M. Mermet's new opera, shall not be burnt at the stake at the Grand Opera-house in Paris, as Mrs. Rousby was at the Queen's Theatre, in Mr. Tom Taylor's play. The opera is to end happily, with the coronation in the Cathedral of Rheims. M. Faure is to be Charles the Seventh. The tenor will be M. Achard.

ALTHOUGH the Parisian law-courts have compelled M. de Leuven, of the Opéra Comique, to produce M. Sauvage's opera, 'Gillotin et son Père,' the music composed some years since by M. Ambroise Thomas, who wanted to stop the performance of the work, the Director has claimed a delay of one year to prepare the opera, which has been allowed by the Court of Appeal.

At the Paris Athénée, three one-act operettas have been produced, with a fair amount of success. 'Le Saint Nicolas,' music by M. de Mortariou; 'Pierrot-Fantôme,' music by M. Lionel; and 'Jalous de Soi,' music by Madame Anais Marcelli.

The familiar face of George Hainl, the Conductor of the Grand Opéra in Paris, will be missed. He had been long ill, and died last week, in his sixty-sixth year. He was educated in the Conservatoire, and became Director of the Opéra-house in Lyons in 1840. After the death of Dietrich, he was appointed *chef d'orchestre* at the Grand Opéra, on the recommendation of Meyerbeer. He next succeeded M. Tilmant at the Conservatoire Concerts, which post, owing to bad health, he resigned to M. Deldevez, the present chief. He was interred on the 5th inst. in Père la Chaise, followed to the grave by his son, and his two sons-in-law, MM. Le Corbeiller and A. Grenier, the pall-bearers being Baron Taylor, MM. Ambroise Thomas, Deldevez, Emile Perrin, Halanzier, and C. Garnier. The funeral orations were spoken by MM. Deldevez, Halanzier, and A. Pougny. At the service in the Church of La Trinité, nearly all the artistic and literary celebrities of Paris were present. The music included the Funeral March from Beethoven's 'Eroica,' and the *allegretto* from the Symphony in A, executed by the Grand Opéra orchestra; the 'Pie Jesu' of M. Faure, sung by M. Caron, the basso; the Kyrie and Libera of Plantade; Bach's Prelude in E minor; and a funeral march, played on the organ by M. Guilmant.

DRAMA

M. BRASSEUR'S PERFORMANCES.

M. BRASSEUR's first appearance at the Princess's Theatre has brought with it a complete change of performances. A reign of farce, chansonette, and vaudeville has succeeded the régime of sentimental drama which followed the arrival of Mdlle. Descleé. M. Brasseur is known as the drollest and most mirth-moving actor of the famous company of the Palais Royal. Endowed with a power of facial play almost Listonian, and with singular gifts of mimicry, he is able, with slight aid of disguise, to present a large variety of personages. His performances have accordingly considerable resemblance to those of M. Levassor, which, a few years ago, enjoyed an exceptional popularity in London. In such pieces as the well-known vaudeville, 'Dix contre Un,' the rapidity and completeness of the disguises he assumes are thoroughly remarkable. In pieces like 'La Consigne est de Ronfle' and 'Le Brésilien,' he shows himself an admirably competent actor of farce. His imitations of living actors display rare mimetic ability, and his delivery of such quaint chansonettes as 'Le Vieux Buveur,' or 'Les Cocasseries de la Danse,' is unsurpassed. It is impossible to imagine a transformation more complete or more instantaneous than that made by M. Brasseur in 'Le Vieux Buveur,' in which an old peasant answers the reprimand of his self-appointed censor. The withdrawal of a hat to which a wig is attached is all the change of attire that is made. In place of the face of a robust farmer of Normandy we then see a wonderful type of a rustic toper. The thick drooping lip and the large round watery eye are Rabelaisian in the richness of the content they express, while the excuses for drinking are given with a reedy pipe indicative of extreme old age, but with a chirruping delivery worthy of the good old days when Walter Mapes wrote his famous canticle, 'Meum est propositum in taberna mori'; when pious Bishop Still declared—

I cannot eat but little meat,
My stomach is not good,
But I do think that I can drink
With any that wears a hood;

or when Grangousier and the burghers of Sainais, of Suillé, of the Roche-Clermaud, and of Vaugaudry, participated in 'Les propos des bienvyres,' and solved such abstruse questions as 'Qui feut premier, soif ou beuverye.' To this venerable worthy, youth,

age, joy, sorrow, all things, in fact, supply an excuse for resorting to the bottle and listening to its delicious 'glou-glou.' M. Brasseur's performances were received with signal favour, the song in question obtaining a warm encore. M. Monroy, M. Jourdan, Madame Mondelet, and Madame Marcelli, played the subordinate parts. Madame Mace Montrouge appeared in 'Sauvons la Caisse,' an operetta, to which M. Lecocq has supplied some vivacious music. She failed, however, to make a favourable impression.

Dramatic Gossip.

MADAME RISTORI re-appeared in London, on Wednesday last, after an absence of fifteen years, and played Medea, in Montelli's version of M. Legouvé's tragedy. On Friday she appeared as Maria Stuarda. Madame Ristori's presentation of Medea was supreme in tenderness, though it did not very strongly present the grim and terrible side of the barbaric queen and enchantress. We shall have occasion to recur to it hereafter.

WE are glad to hear that there is some hope of a return to the Princess's of Mdlle. Descleé. The management is, we understand, about to make one more appeal to the Lord Chamberlain, to obtain permission for the appearance of this admirable artist in 'La Princesse Georges.' Our best wishes are with the management in their struggle against ignorance and prejudice.

'L'ABSENT' of M. Eugène Manuel has been successfully produced at the Théâtre Français. It is a domestic study, intended as a companion picture to 'Les Ouvriers.' A father, whose life has been broken by the vices and ultimate desertion of his son, is surprised by the arrival of a woman in mourning, requesting shelter, as the widow of the prodigal. The welcome refused the suppliant by the stern old man is won by the child she bears, whose playful ways and resemblance to his father bring refreshing tears to the eyes, long dry and angry. This piece, which is in one act, is in verse, which is rather elegant than easy or natural. MM. Maubant and Coquelin, and Mesdames Nathalie, Sarah Bernhardt, and P. Granger, played the prominent parts.

FOR the 267th anniversary of the birth of Corneille, 'Le Cid' and 'Le Menteur' were given by the Comédie Française. The success of Mdlle. Roussel, who, as Chimène, made her first appearance after her return from Cairo, was complete; that of M. Monet-Sully, as Rodrigue, was not uncontested.

'DIANAH,' a two-act comedy of M. Théodore Barrière, produced at the Vaudeville, is a newly-dressed version of a little piece, entitled, 'Adieu, Paniers! les Vendanges sont Faites!' produced with much success, some years ago, at Baden. An English baronet, one Sir George Beel, loves his daughter with an affection so strong and so selfish, he regards with absolute hatred the man who has saved her life, and claims her hand as recompense. He learns the bitter lesson, however, that love is not to be fettered. This trifle was well played by Mdlle Baretta, formerly of the Odéon, as Dianah; M. Saint-Germain, as her father; and M. Parade, as her lover.

A NEW melo-drama, entitled 'Tabarin; ou, Les Parades du Pont Neuf,' the authors of which are MM. E. Grangé and X. de Montépin, has been produced with complete success at the Ambigu-Comique. This piece, which is in a prologue and five acts, is in no way distinguishable from average melo-dramas of its class, except for its curious hero. Tabarin was one of the best known of the comedians and vendors of drugs who, during the seventeenth century, gave in the open air in Paris entertainments which were among the favourite recreations of the citizens. 'The Parades of Tabarin' and the 'Œuvres Tabariniques' have been frequently reprinted. Like the works of his associates, Gaultier Garguille and Bruscamille, they are little more than a string of foul indecencies. Such as they are, their success at the time of their delivery was so great that Tabarin obtained a large fortune,

and retired to live upon a *seigneurie* which he had bought. From that time nothing was heard of him, though Daniel Martin, in his scarce work, 'Le Nouveau Parlement,' says he was killed by the gentlemen of his district, who resented his intrusion among them. In the new drama, Tabarin is the protector of innocence, and it is to his devotion that the daughter of a murdered marquis owes her escape from the perils that beset her from her father's assassin, and is in the end married to the man she loves. Marion Delorme is also introduced.

THE Comédie Française has accepted a one-act comedy of MM. Meilhac and Halévy. This is a further step in the direction of a popular management.

IN Rome, owing to the extreme heat, the performances have commenced in the *Arena*, or open-air theatres. At the Sferisterio, the Biagi Casilini Rosa Company have begun to play an excellent programme. Amongst other pieces, Ferrari's comedy, 'Cause ed Effetti,' then the 'Boccaccio' of Bettoli, the 'Beethoven' of Cossa, 'Fuochi di Paglia' and the 'Brindisi' of Castelnuovo.

MR. JAMES W. WALLACK, an American actor, a nephew of the well-known actor of the same name, was found dead recently in the railway cars near Richmond. He appeared many years ago in England as Werner, and as the Man in the Iron Mask. His recent performances in New York included the sombre hero of 'The Bells,' and Mercutio and Jaques in the Shakespearean performances upon the arrival of Miss Neilson. Mr. Wallack's age is stated as about sixty.

ANTIQUARIAN NOTES

The Wappen'd Widow.—I am sorry that I should in any way have misrepresented Mr. Furnivall, but when he said that Early English showed the base of *wappen'd*, I confess I understood him to mean the root of the word, whereas it seems he meant its infinitive mood; moreover, he did not quote, he merely stated that the Early English *wappen* meant to wrap up, to clothe. He does now quote the word from Dr. Stratmann's Dictionary, and I recommend to your readers Dr. Stratmann's article and Mr. Furnivall's comments on it; also I would recommend to their notice Mr. Furnivall's belief that Shakespeare himself mistakenly 'made the perfect participle of *wappen*, *wappen'd*.' This seems to me 'the most unkindest cut of all' that the good word *wappen'd* has ever received. I can imagine it raising its withered head, and gazing mournfully at Mr. Furnivall with an agonizing 'Et tu, Brute!' Granted, however, that it is still living, and that Mr. Furnivall's interpretation of it is the correct one, are we any nearer to the understanding of this vexed passage? We have still got but the wrapped up or clothed widow. There is nothing in the text of Shakespeare, except this dubious *wappen'd*, to indicate her state, either mental or bodily. There is no kind of hint at her being either sorrowful or joyful. True, we may say, wrapped up in grief, or clothed with gladness, but we have to express the grief or gladness to make our speech intelligible, and I submit that Mr. Furnivall's interpretation does not do this. Let those, however, who care to study the subject, read what our lexicographers, compilers of glossaries, and, last not least, the commentators of Shakespeare have written both for and against this word *wappen'd*, and my belief is that they will join with me in the conviction that the word is simply a misprint, one of the innumerable and sometimes almost incredible distortions which Shakespeare's text has suffered at the hands of the printers of the old editions. P. A. DANIEL.

* * * This controversy must now close.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. H.—F. R.—B. L.—A. B.—J. R.—J. C.—received.
J. W. M.—We cannot answer such questions.
D.—We fear it scarcely suits us.

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